

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN JUJUY
Project Number:	2017-0224
Country:	ARGENTINA
Project Description:	The project consists of a multi-scheme Framework Loan (FL) operation for the implementation of an integrated waste management system (Plan Estructural en Gestión Integral de Residuos Sólidos Urbanos) for the collection, treatment and safe disposal of municipal solid waste generated within the province of Jujuy / Argentina.
EIA required:	This is a multi-scheme Framework Loan operation. If the project were located in the EU, some of the schemes might fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive and would need to be screened by the Competent Authority.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	yes

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project is structured as a Framework Loan (FL) and will include investments in selected schemes defined under the so-called GIRSU (Gestión Integral de Residuos Sólidos Urbanos) Plan for the province of Jujuy, in Argentina.

The investments are mainly linked to collection equipment, sorting stations, sanitary landfills, compost areas, transfer stations and rehabilitation of existing dumpsites across the province of Jujuy. However, at appraisal stage, individual schemes were not completely defined.

Selected investments in the FL are in line with the main priorities stated in the: i) Jujuy Verde ('Green Jujuy') initiative carbon neutral 2030, ii) the GIRSU Plan - part of the Province's goal to transition into a "Green Province" -, and iii) the Pachamama Paradigm - recognition of the intercultural character of the province, revaluation of the indigenous worldview, special link with the land, territory and natural resources.

The Project will be implemented in compliance with the Environmental National and Provincial legislation:

National Legislation

- Law 25.675 - General Law of Environment.
- Law 24.051 - Law of Dangerous Waste.
- Law 25.831 - Law of Environmental Information.
- Decree PEN 674/89 - Protection of Surface and Ground Water Resources.
- Law 20.284 - Plan of Prevention of critical situations in Atmospheric contamination.
- Law 25743 - Protection of the Archaeological and Paleontological Heritage

Provincial Legislation

- Law 5063 and Decrees 5980/06 and 9067/07 - General Law of Environment
- Law 5317 – Public Audience/hearing

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.

Above mentioned Environmental Legislation sets the framework for schemes to be screened for EIA process which includes public consultation. The schemes linked to construction of sanitary cells for landfills and compost areas as well as the biogas plant will be subject to EIA. The competent authority in the province is the Ministry of Environment through its Environmental Secretariat.

The province Jujuy has several protected areas (natural and cultural) including “La Quebrada de Humahaca” listed under the UNESCO cultural heritage sites. Some schemes will be located in the vicinity of these areas where specific construction and environmental norms apply. In these cases, the environment will be particularly improved as the investments will have a direct impact on the reduction of air and water pollution, risks to public health, tackle climate change related issues, divert the biodegradable waste fraction from landfilling.

Furthermore, “La Quebrada” is one of the main touristic poles of the province and together with the region of “Puna” forms the core of the indigenous communities’ habitat (80% of the indigenous population of the province). To date, this area has to comply with several environmental standards imposed by the UNESCO that will be met through the implementation of this Project.

The Environmental framework described guarantees that a biodiversity impact assessment should be performed and documented, if needed. The approval of the relevant competent authority makes reference to any condition related to impact on protected areas (natural or cultural), archaeological sites and areas of international interest attached. In addition, the mitigation measures are clearly identified and included in any Environmental and Social Management Plan.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

In line with the Bank’s calculation methodology, the baseline for calculating the emission for the waste facilities is assumed to be a basic Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility for the entire waste volume of 200 kt/year with bio-stabilisation of biodegradable waste and disposal of all residues, with no assumed CO₂ emissions from residue disposal, but electricity consumption from the network to satisfy the internal load of the MBT. As a result, it is anticipated that relative annual emissions for the Anaerobic Digestion plant and the landfills with energy recovery amount to around -22 Ktons CO_{2e/year}.

Therefore, the project will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the methane emissions 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.

Social Assessment

The investment will contribute to the implementation of the GIRSU plan, through which, solid waste management services will be rendered to some 800 000 inhabitants, including tourists visiting the province of Jujuy.

More specifically, the investments will support social inclusion activities (including indigenous groups and other vulnerable people) and will consider the needs of identified waste pickers in order to diminish their socio-economic and environmental vulnerability, formalising and dignifying their labour situation. The Project will have significant benefits for improving the health of the local population, as well as for improving the labour conditions and creating entrepreneurial opportunities for the local population. The transition of the affected vulnerable population (mainly waste pickers) to formal employment will benefit from the redeployment of their experience in the sector.

In principle, no involuntary displacement of persons, dwellings is expected to arise from the proposed Project and in case, any displacement may be triggered, then it will be carried out in line with EIB environmental and social standards therefore requiring a Resettlement Action Plan.

In summary, the social impact of the Project will be positive as it will improve the quality of life of province’s population, significantly reducing pollution generated by waste in the province as well as contributing to poverty reduction in the area and promoting entrepreneurship opportunities for sustainable socio-economic development by integrating the waste pickers into formal employment in the new waste management system in the province.

To this end a social development plan informed by a vulnerability assessment, will be developed in with the support of the technical assistance to be provided during Project implementation. The plan should address relevant initiatives taken by the government of Jujuy to address child labour in the waste sector, started since 2008 by the provincial commission for the prevention and eradication of child labour (COPRETI) with the support of UNICEF and ILO.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The provincial Law 5954/16 was adopted in 2016 for the purpose of implementing the GIRSU Plan, supporting the scope of this project. Relevant NGOs, indigenous group's representatives, entrepreneurs as well as other groups of the civil society were consulted and participated in the definition of the Law.

The Jujuy province has some 60 municipalities and commissions² in the municipalities. To date, 48 (representing 80% of the total population of Jujuy) are adhered to the Law 5954/16 either through Resolution of the relevant Municipal Council or via other regulations. These local entities are part of the Provincial Council linked to the "Pachamama te cuido" Plan, led by the Ministry of Environment. They are involved, together with the Ministry of Environment and GIRSU S.E³, in the implementation and operation of the Plan GIRSU.

The Law 5317 – Public Audience/hearing as well as legal EIA framework on public consultation will apply, guaranteeing better access to Public Consultation.

When indigenous groups will be affected, the public consultation process will take into account relevant languages. In this regard, a stakeholder engagement plan inclusive of a grievance mechanism will be put in place in order to promote the participation of the indigenous population in the Project, and their transition to the formal sector.

The redeployment of traditional practices and experiences as well as the introduction of inclusive practices will contribute both to the sustainability of the Project and to the enhancement of citizen participation to the integrated management of solid waste. When applicable, the Project will be seeking free prior informed consent of the affected indigenous population (in line with EIB environmental and social standards).

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Argentina has ratified the *Core Labour standards*, as defined in the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

This Project will indirectly contribute to the development of entrepreneurial opportunities for the local population. Developing technical knowledge and skills at province level institutions will ultimately have a spill-over effect at municipal level where the participation of the local institutions, waste management service providers and population in the overall GIRSU Plan is crucial for ensuring its sustainability through practices around the reduction, separation and recovery of waste.

Furthermore, communication and education actions should lead to attitude/behavioural changes that will improve the quality of life of the population in terms of health and economic activity.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project aims at phasing out the dumping of untreated waste, rationalising and improving the current solid waste disposal practices and gradually bringing the province of Jujuy into compliance with international environmental standards in this sector. The Project is therefore contributing to improve the quality of life of the population as well as to tackle climate-change related issues through the reduction of greenhouse gases through the proper management of urban solid waste.

EIB funds will be allocated to schemes meeting eligibility criteria set out in the Finance Contract modulated according the scheme size and in accordance with applicable FL allocation procedures, including compliance with the Environmental and Social Principles and Standards.

² Less than 3,000 inhabitants

³ GIRSU S.E is the public company created with the purpose of managing the GIRSU Plan together with the Ministry of Environment.

Furthermore, the EIA process shall include the public consultation including the so called Public hearing under provincial Law 5317 in particular the consultation process to indigenous groups, the so-called "Procedimiento de Consulta y consentimiento Previo, libre e informado para las comunidades indígenas". A social development plan informed by a vulnerability assessment and a stakeholder engagement plan inclusive of a grievance mechanism, shall be developed to the satisfaction of the Bank.

Given that GIRSU S.E (the recently established Public Company that will operate the Project) and the Ministry of Environment have limited human resources, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be set up and supported by an external team of consultants (financed by LAIF grant). It is deemed that the capacity of the Promoter, supplemented by the dedicated long-term TA throughout the Project implementation is sufficient to manage the environmental and social aspects in line with EIB requirements.

Therefore, given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning ESIA and nature protection put in place by the Promoter, subject to the conditions mentioned, the Project is acceptable in environmental and social terms

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