

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	HERA ENVIRONMENTAL&CIRCULAR ECONOMY INITIATIVES
Project Number:	2016-0029
Country:	ITALY
Project Description:	Investments in waste collection, treatment and disposal activities
EIA required:	This is multi-scheme 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 :	yes

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

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project will be implemented by Hera S.p.A. one of the largest Italian multi utilities and Herambiente S.p.A. - Hera's subsidiary operating in the waste management sector ("the Promoters"). The scope of the investment programme comprises nineteen (19) schemes in the area of waste management including: (i) waste collection, (ii) bio waste treatment, (iii) recycling and recovery (iv) waste incineration, and (v) landfill disposal.

The Project components will be developed in line with relevant national and regional waste management strategies with ambitious targets for separate collection and recycling, and respond to new market opportunities for treating commercial and industrial waste. The regional waste management plan in Emilia Romagna, where most of the project components will be implemented, has been subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The Project aims to assure long term compliance with the environmental standards, increase recovery of both materials and energy from residual waste and reduce emissions and climate change impact. The Project components are expected to contribute to compliance with the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) and the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) by ensuring

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.

continued diversion of waste from landfills and by increasing materials and energy recovery from waste.

The majority of investment schemes will take place outside protected areas including Natura 2000. About half of the Project components relate to upgrades and modernisations of the existing plants and do not require environmental impact assessments (EIA). However, there are some new facilities or major upgrades at existing plants that are expected to fall under Annex II of the EU EIA Directive 2014/52/EU (amending 2011/92/EU) and might be screened in by the competent environmental authorities.

A detailed summary of the project scope and indication of the schemes requiring EIA screening is provided below.

No	Project component	Location	Project scope	EIA status
Waste collection				
1	Pay As You Throw project	Provinces of Bologna, Modena, Ravenna, Ferrara, Forli-Cesena, Rimini	Different equipment to implement the PAYT project	EIA not required
Bio-waste treatment				
2	Anaerobic digestion and biomethane upgrade plant	Sant'Agata Bolognese (Bologna)	4 semi-dry digestors of 25 kt/yr 1 water pressure biomethane scrubber	EIA required and permit granted
3	Adjustment of Tremonti mechanical biological treatment plant; Biological Treatment - stabilization/composting	Imola (Bologna)	Construction of composting tunnels as replacement for the current bed composting	EIA required and permit granted
4	Adjustment of composting plant	Ozzano Emilia (Bologna)	Reduction of uncontrolled odour emissions	EIA not required
5	Biomethane Italia project	TBD	New anaerobic digester, biogas up-grading and composting plant	EIA required but not yet completed
Recycling and recovery				
6	Alimpet - new PET line	Borgolavezzaro (Novara)	New PET bottle washing line with reduction in energy recovery and waste generation	EIA not required
7	3 new glass recycling lines	Coriano (Rimini), Modena and Bologna	Glass recycling lines	EIA required and permit granted for Rimini and Modena, but not yet for Bologna
8	Waste recycling, improvement of biological purifier	Castelfranco di Sotto, S.Croce sull'Arno (Pisa)	Waste recycling, improvement of biological purifier	EIA required but not yet completed
9	Upgrade of SRF production facility to improve SRF quality	Castiglione (Mantova)	Upgrading of existing SRF production plant to improve the quality of SRF	EIA not required
Incineration				
10	Extraordinary Maintenance of waste to energy plant in Bologna	Granarolo dell'Emilia (Bologna)	Installation of heat exchanger to improve the deNOx performance, replacement of superheaters, inconel cladding and lining of boilers.	EIA not required
11	Bologna waste to energy plant iron recovery unit	Granarolo dell'Emilia (Bologna)	New iron recovery facility	EIA not required
12	Replacement of boilers at the waste to energy plant	Pozzilli (Isernia)	New boiler and superheaters to reduce corrosion and fouling	EIA not required
13	The upgrade of hazardous waste incinerator F3 plant with adaptation to best available techniques (BAT)	Ravenna	Upgrade of 20 years old hazardous waste incinerator to BAT. New SCR deNOx, modification of feeder and combustion chamber, upgrade of slag extraction and iron recovery, coating of oiler with inconel.	EIA required but not yet completed
14	Extraordinary maintenance on five waste to energy plants	Ferrara, Forli, Ravenna, Rimini, Isernia	Replacement of superheater/economizer, replacement of flue gas treatment equipment, replacement of refractory lining and cladding, replacement of furnace grate	EIA not required
15	Upgrade line 2 waste to energy plants	Trieste	Installation of new furnace and boiler in line 2 with expansion of capacity and upgrade of flue gas treatment system	EIA required but not yet completed
Landfill disposal				
16	Landfill mining and expansion	Finale Emilia (Modena)	70% municipal solid waste and 30% other wastes. All municipal solid waste will be managed during the installation	EIA required but not yet completed
17	New biogas engines at Tremonti Landfill	Imola (Bologna)	3 new biogas engines complementing the existing 2 biogas engines on Tremonti landfill	EIA required and permit granted
18	Dismantling of tanks and removal of inert materials at Tremonti Landfill	Imola (Bologna)	Replacement of leaking leachate storage tanks	EIA required and permit granted
19	Rainwater storage system	Ravenna	Storage and pretreatment of rainwater falling on covered landfill to reduce solid and sediments in liquid emissions	EIA not required

The Project's environmental impact during construction include possible impact on traffic, noise, as well as safety hazards during the construction phase, common for this type of projects. These impacts will be short-lived and reversible, at a level which is deemed acceptable. Potential negative effects will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures as identified during the EIA process. During operation, the investments are expected to bring a number of positive effects in terms of increased energy and resource recovery, reduced environmental impact and climate mitigation.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

The Promoters have for relevant project components estimated the total avoided consumption of tonnes of oil (TOE) equivalents and related greenhouse gas reductions to 49 kt CO_{2eq} per year.

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 new waste treatment plants will create employment both in the construction and operation stages, and the outputs produced will support economic activities in the Northern Italy regions where Hera operates.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The Promoters will be requested to ensure compliance with national and European environmental legislation and facilitate public access to environmentally relevant information in accordance with the Aarhus Convention in line with Italian regulations.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In summary, the Project is considered to have positive environmental impact by reduction of emissions, recovering renewable energy from waste and production of bio-methane for injection into the gas grid. The Project will thus reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and contribute to mitigation of climate change. The Project will also have significant positive social aspect considering its employment and economic impact.

The Promoters undertake not to allocate the Bank's funds to Project components that require a formal EIA and/or nature assessment until it has been completed and approved by the relevant competent authority. An electronic copy of the EIA report must be submitted to the Bank when it is made available to the public. A copy of the consent(s) from the competent authorities should be provided to the Bank.

The Promoters are judged to be well positioned to properly operate the proposed plants and mitigate potential environmental risks. Therefore, given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning EIA and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities, the Project is considered acceptable for financing by the Bank in environmental and social terms.

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