

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name:	MODERNISATION SZOLNOK - SZAJOL RAILWAY LINE
Project Number:	2015-0040
Country:	Hungary
Project Description:	The project is a major allocation under Cohesion Fund FL III Phasing Rail Investments and consists of the modernisation of the Szolnok - Szajol railway line section

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

No significant environment or social issues were noted.

The project was part of the upgrade programme of the existing railway corridor between Budapest – Szolnok – Szajol – Békéscsaba and Lőkősháza state border towards Romania. The section is part of two TEN-T core networks (Mediterranean and Orient East/Med) and the ERTMS priority corridor.

The 2007-2013 Transport Operational Programme (TOP) for Hungary, under which the project was presented, underwent a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) procedure and the environmental effects were assessed.

The project fell under Annex I of Directive 2011/92/EU and was therefore subject to environmental impact assessment (EIA). An EIA report was prepared for the revised project and submitted to the competent authority in 2012. On the basis of the findings of this assessment, the Competent Authority issued the environment permit for the project on 26 April 2013.

Environmental impacts during operation included noise, impacts on ecology and on the landscape. Relevant mitigation measures have been implemented to reduce, offset and eliminate these impacts (drainage system, noise barriers, etc.) as set as conditions in the environmental permit and its amendment.

The project was a rehabilitation of an existing rail infrastructure on a key section of two TEN-T corridors and protects the railway line from floods from the river Tisza. It contributes to sustainable transport objectives by making rail transport more attractive and better placed to face competition from road, as well as also contributes to climate adaption.

#### **Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:**

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