

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	MAZOWIECKIE REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE
Project Number:	2017-0425
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	The proposed Framework Loan will part-finance the priority schemes implemented in the 2014-2020 programming period in the Mazowieckie Region. The programme will primarily include schemes in the following sectors: road safety, culture heritage, and health. The loan will be signed under the Programme Loan 2017-0081 POLAND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME.
EIA required:	This is a multi-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex II of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The operation, structured as a Framework Loans will support schemes in the sectors of roads, sustainable mobility, culture, health and public buildings included in the investment programmes of the Mazowieckie region.

The operation will contribute to the implementation of the *Regional Development Strategy of the Mazowieckie region till 2030*, in particular to the strengthening territorial cohesion. This strategy was subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), carried out in 2012/2013.

The schemes are expected to have a limited temporary impact during the construction phase usually through an increased local traffic and construction and demolition waste generated. These impacts could be mitigated by adhering to a good practice and by following the recommendations of the competent authority. In the case of road safety and modernisation schemes, the intervention shall be limited to the existing lanes of the roads as well as other existing transport structures, which reduces potential impacts to a minimum. However, the road schemes are expected to have limited residual impact in the operational phase. Small infrastructure schemes are not expected to have negative environmental impacts. As far as public buildings are concerned, there are a number of positive effects expected, including energy savings in buildings owned by the region as a result of insulation of walls and roofs, changing windows and other energy efficiency measures.

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.

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Sustainable mobility components and energy efficiency measures within the refurbishment of the public buildings will contribute to the Climate Action (mitigation).

Polish regions are impacted by climate change through increasing frequency and intensity of natural hazards e.g. droughts, floods, excessive precipitation. While the natural disaster recovery schemes are a necessary reactive instrument that facilitates reconstruction of the infrastructure, more work is needed in the preparation and implementation of systemic adaptation measures.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The project is expected to bring a number of positive social impacts, including the increase in the quality of public services available to the inhabitants as a result of the refurbishment and modernisation of hospitals, culture institutions and other public buildings. Furthermore, road safety improvements are expected to result in reduced number of accidents in the concerned areas.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Regional development strategy was subject to comprehensive and extensive public consultations. Individual schemes may also be subject to public consultation in line with the EIA law.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Promoter (Mazowieckie region) will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including SEA (2001/42/EC), EIA (2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives and Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) as transposed into national law. In projects where applicable, the Promoter will be requested to deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank before Bank funds are allocated.

For Schemes having a potential impact on protected areas including Natura 2000 sites, the Promoters have to provide evidence of the compliance (including screening) with the Habitats and Birds Directives (if applicable) upon request before the Bank funds are allocated. For schemes triggering art. 4.7 of the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the promoters have to provide evidence of the compliance with the WFD before the Bank funds are allocated.

The overall institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed good. Given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning EIA and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities in Poland, subject to the conditions mentioned above, the FL is acceptable in environmental and social terms.