



Luxembourg, 15 September 2017

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	KITCHENER DRAIN
Project Number:	2017-0090
Country:	Egypt
Project Description:	The project concerns the depollution of the Kitchener Drain in the Nile Delta Region in Egypt through investments in domestic wastewater collection and treatment, solid waste management and rehabilitation of the drain infrastructure.
EIA required:	yes
<i>The project will be subject to a number of different EIAs studies for the various proposed investments according to the national laws and regulations.</i>	
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Kitchener Drain is one of the longest agricultural drains in Egypt with a total length of 69km. The drain's catchment area extends across three Governorates (Gharbia, Kafr El-Sheikh and Dakahlia) in the Nile Delta region. It is one of the most polluted drains in the Delta region as it is used for the discharge of partially treated and untreated domestic and industrial wastewater, as well as for the disposal of municipal solid waste along the banks of the main drain and its sub drains, causing significant environmental and health problems and severely damaging the economy of the area.

The project will include investments in wastewater collection and treatment, management of solid waste and rehabilitation of the drain infrastructure, aiming to improve the living standards of the rural population in the drain's catchment area. The project will increase sanitation coverage and provide an additional 71,000 m³/d of wastewater treatment capacity along with the rehabilitation of up to 24 existing wastewater treatment plants. In addition, the project will provide solid waste facilities for 4,800 tonnes/day of solid waste from both urban and rural areas. Finally, the Kitchener Drain itself and its subsidiary drains will be restored by removing accumulated waste and debris and rehabilitating auxiliary facilities such as pumping stations and bridges. The project will be financed in parallel by EIB and EBRD with EIB financing focusing on the wastewater and sanitation project components and EBRD financing focusing on solid waste and drain rehabilitation.

As the project provides an integrated depollution approach, there are different Promoters for the different types of investments (namely the wastewater collection and treatment, the solid waste management and the drain infrastructure rehabilitation). The Promoter for the

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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wastewater components of the project is the Holding Company for Water and Wastewater (HCWW), with the Beneficiaries being the respective regional subsidiaries (Gharbia Company for Water and Sanitation, Kafr El Sheikh Company for Water and Sanitation and Dakahlia Company for Water and Sanitation). For the solid waste investments the Promoter will be either the Ministry of Environment or the Ministry for Local Development with the Beneficiaries being the respective Governorates as they are the competent authorities for municipal solid waste management services in their geographical territories. Finally, for the drain rehabilitation, the Promoter will be the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation with the Beneficiaries being the Egyptian Public Authority for Drainage Projects for components related to drainage and infrastructure rehabilitation and the Mechanical and Electrical Department for the implementation of the components related to rehabilitation of pumping stations.

Weaknesses in the environmental and social capacity of the Promoters and Beneficiaries of the project will be addressed with the support of international Project Implementation Consultants (PICs) for each of the streams who will also be responsible for assisting with the preparation of the ESIA's.

The project will comply with national environmental requirements as defined in Egyptian Law 4/1994 and its executive regulations (ERs) as amended by Law 9/2009 and Decree 1095/2011. The Law dictates that Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies are mandatory for both new projects and/or expansion of existing projects as a part of the licensing procedure.

Given the early stage of the Project, there are currently no ESIA's. They will be carried out according to the Guidelines of Principles and Procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment issued by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) in 1996 and amended in 2009. The ESIA's will be submitted to the relevant Competent Administrative Authority (CAA)² for review and submittal to the EEAA. Particularly sanitation and municipal solid waste management projects are classified as category B projects (i.e. of medium severity impacts that can be directly mitigated) with sanitary landfills being classified as category C (i.e. projects that may result in substantial environmental impacts that require a comprehensive EIA) in accordance with the "Protocol for Cooperation between the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Housing, Utilities, and Urban Communities for the Application of Criteria and Environmental Conditions for Wastewater Projects". According to the EU EIA Directive, all components of the project fall under Annex II. The Project will not affect any protected areas.

The approach adopted in the EEAA 2009 EIA Guidelines for the classification of projects, is overall, considered compatible with EU EIA Directive reflecting the increasing levels of details required in environmental impact assessment, depending on the severity of potential impacts. All environmental and social impacts will be addressed in accordance with Egypt's national regulations and to the satisfaction of the Bank through the project's ESIA's, specific Environmental and Social Monitoring Plans (ESMPs) and Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs), where required. Completion of the relevant ESIA's, to the satisfaction of the Bank, will be a condition prior to any disbursement relating to works.

Project activities will involve clearing of construction sites from obstacles, excavation of trenches, laying of sewers, construction of concrete structures and installation of electromechanical equipment. Possible negative environmental impacts are limited to the construction period and include land disturbance, air pollution due to dust generation, noise, generation of construction waste and ecosystem disturbance due to excavations. These

² HCWW is the CAA for domestic wastewater collection and treatment schemes.



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impacts are expected to be temporary and confined to the immediate construction sites. These issues will be addressed in the relevant ESMPs. The project is unlikely to result in any lasting loss of flora and fauna. It is foreseen that there will be some permanent loss of agricultural land at new wastewater treatment and landfill sites but this is not expected to be significant.

The project will also contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the collection and treatment of wastewater and the management of solid waste.

Social Assessment, where applicable

Land acquisition for WWTPs and landfills is ruled by the Egyptian Law 10/1990, which regulates land acquisition for public interest projects. The construction of proposed infrastructure is not expected to trigger involuntary resettlement as the land required for the construction of the proposed landfills and new WWTP, if other than state property, will be purchased following mutual agreement between the Promoter and the individual owners.

With regard to labour standards, Egypt has ratified all eight fundamental ILO Conventions, however effective implementation has been inconsistent with regard to recognition of independent trade unions. The project will require compliance with international standards, national labour, social security and occupational health and safety laws.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation is foreseen as part of the EIA process as defined in the Guidelines of Principles and Procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment issued by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) in 1996 and amended in 2009. An appropriate Stakeholder Engagement Plan, inclusive of a Grievance Mechanism, will be developed as part of the project's Environmental and Social Action Plan.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The environmental and social benefits resulting from the implementation of the proposed investments, particularly the reduction of pollution in drains will lead to the significant improvement of public health conditions and living standards for the local population. In addition, the potential stimulation of economic activities that are currently adversely affected by the increased levels of pollution will provide much needed employment for skilled and unskilled workers in the region and would contribute to easing the country's unemployment burden.

The project is not expected to have any significant adverse impact on the environment, with possible negative environmental effects being temporary and confined to the immediate construction sites. These adverse impacts can be either prevented and/or minimised through appropriate mitigation measures and by adhering to national standards and relevant international standards, guidelines and design criteria.

The project will comply with the requirements of the national legislation.

The scope of the Project is fully in line with the Bank's Lending Priority in Climate and Environment and the Water Sector Lending Policy and will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal No.6 (SDG) of "availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all", particularly in the rural low income areas.

In order to comply with the Bank's requirements, the following conditions and undertakings relating to environmental and social matters will be applied to the project:



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- No EIB funds will be disbursed for works without prior receipt of the relevant EIA, to the satisfaction of the Bank, for publication locally and on the Bank's website.
- A project Environmental and Social Action Plan for the components financed by the Bank will be prepared, to the satisfaction of the Bank, agreed and endorsed by the EIB Promoter.
- The Promoters will undertake to ensure full compliance with the project's³ Environmental and Social requirements.
- All non-technical summaries of project EIAs will be sent to the EIB for publication on its website, prior to the start of the works.

With the above conditions in place, the project is acceptable for financing in environmental and social terms.

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³ The project's Environmental and Social requirements refer to the EIB Environmental and Social Standards for EIB financed components and EBRD Performance Requirements for EBRD financed components.