

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: AMAP WATER INVESTMENTS
Project Number: 20170743
Country: Italy
Project Description: Investments in water and waste water infrastructure in the Province of Palermo (the Region of Sicilia) during the period 2017 - 2020

EIA required: yes

This is an investment programme made up of multiple schemes. Some of them might fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EC amending Directive 2011/92/EC.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns the 2017-2020 investment programme in water and waste water infrastructure of Azienda Municipalizzata Acquedotto di Palermo S.p.A (AMAP). AMAP is a publicly owned utility providing Integrated Water Services (“IWS”) to the City of Palermo and 33 neighbouring municipalities located in the service area known as “ATO Palermo”, corresponding to the administrative borders of the Province of Palermo.

The project consists of numerous small size interventions to address the most critical investment needs across AMAP’s operational area. The operation will improve the quality and reliability of IWS and increase operational efficiency, notably through a reduction in Non-Revenue Water.

The project is designed to meet the requirements of the regional River Basin Management Plan (“Piano di Gestione del Distretto Idrografico della Sicilia”), which is part of the national implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, hence subject to a Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (“SEA”) according to Directive 2001/42/EC. The river basin management plan for the 2015-2021 period has been adopted by the Region of Sicilia in October 2016.

None of the works is not expected to have any impact on a Natura 2000 or other protected sites. No project scheme falls under Annex I of the Environmental Impact Assessment 2014/52/EC Directive (“EIA”). Some schemes might fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive. Therefore, the decision whether an EIA is required is left to the Competent Authority (i.e. Environmental Department of the Region of Sicilia) on the basis of the criteria defined in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

In accordance with the strategic orientations of the “National Vulnerability Assessment” and the “National Strategy for Climate Adaptation”, the project is expected to increase resilience to

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.

Luxembourg, 4th December 2017

the effects of climate change, notably via investments that will improve the management of limited water resources (e.g. water network replacement, metering), hence contributing to climate adaptation.

Social Assessment, where applicable

By increasing the quality and reliability of water supply and wastewater services, the project is expected to bring substantial health advantages to the affected population and environmental quality improvements in the area.

Social negative impacts are only temporary and include possible disruption of services and traffic, noise and temporary occupation of public and private space, as well as safety hazards during the construction phase, which will be addressed as part of the planning for the implementation of each scheme.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The Promoter will be requested to ensure compliance with national and European environmental legislation, notably to facilitate public access to environmental information and guarantee public consultation during the environmental decision process, where relevant, in accordance with the Aarhus Convention.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

During the project's due diligence, the Promoter has demonstrated sound practice with respect to environmental, health and safety management. In addition to procedures to meet regulatory requirements, the Promoter has a comprehensive environmental management system which is applied to new projects and monitors ongoing operations. The Promoter is certified to meet the requirements of the standards ISO 9001 (Quality Certification), ISO 14001 (Environmental Certification), ISO 50001 (Energy Management Certification) and OSHAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety).

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is driven by the requirement to ensure compliance with relevant EU environmental directives (Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EEC, Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC). It will also contribute to adaptation to climate change through measures that enhance water use efficiency. All schemes under the project will be subject to the Promoter's compliance with the following requirements:

1. The Promoter undertakes not to allocate Bank funds to project schemes that require a full EIA until the EIA and/or the necessary nature assessment have been finalised and approved by the relevant competent authority. Once any EIA is available, the promoter will provide the Bank with an electronic copy of its Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and full copy of the EIA, for publication on the EIB website.
2. The Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against any scheme that impacts nature conservation sites, without receiving from the relevant competent authorities the declaration under Art. 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that there are no significant effects and informing the Bank of such declaration having been obtained.
3. The Promoter undertakes to provide to the Bank, if requested, any decision and subsequent justification that screen out project schemes from the requirement of a full EIA as well as the decisions issued by the competent authorities regarding the Habitats and Birds Directives.

Under these conditions the operation is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.