

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	FLOOD PROTECTION MEASURES RS
Project Number:	2017-0697
Country:	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska
Project Description:	Construction of flood protection facilities along the Sava River and its tributaries
EIA required:	Yes This is a multi component project; some schemes may be subject to full EIA; the EIA screening process is on-going.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project schemes form a part of the country flood protection programme; they encompass major positive impacts in terms of human safety and health, property protection, and prevention of economic and financial damages in the project beneficiary area, Republika Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This project is a continuation of the previous Emergency Flood Relief and Prevention Project, also financed by the Bank. The medium-term measures proposed under this project, have been prepared by an international consultant in coordination with the other Sava River Basin authorities; Validation of the measures will take place once the outputs of the ongoing technical assistance project of the studies "Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Maps in Bosnia and Herzegovina", in line with the requirements of the EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) is completed.

The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republika Srpska as Promoter together with the Public Institution Vode Srpske, the Beneficiary. Vode Srpske is in charge of management and operation and maintenance of flood protection infrastructure in accordance with the Water Law of Republika Srpska.

The Promoter complies with the requirements of national EIA legislation, as well as Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. The Promoter carries out Environmental Impact Assessment procedures where required by the competent authorities and mitigating measures are applied as appropriate. Impacts during the construction and operation phase are expected to be mitigated by good practice and work organisation following the competent authorities' requirements.

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.

The Project will contribute towards the EIB's climate action objectives, notably adaptation to climate change. These are investments aiming to increase climate and disaster resilience in the project area through a higher level of flood protection compared with the situation before the project.

Social Assessment, where applicable

A Social due diligence was carried out for the multi component project lending approach according to EIB's procedures and standards i.e. due diligence was focussed on the Promoter's capacity and capability to implement the project in line with the EIB social standards and requirements. The project is expected to bring considerable social benefits by reducing the risk and/or impact of floods in the priority areas with significant flood risk. Social impacts will be mitigated by strict project management and will be addressed in particular through the planning and construction permissions.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation takes place at all levels of the definition of investments and their preparation and implementation, starting with consultation for the key planning documents and proceeding with the definition of the major schemes during the scoping and implementation phase, which also includes definition of compensatory measures in local communities when affected.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Vode Srpske integrates both the investment programme and its operations into a single structure of environmental management that covers two areas of focus: environmental compliance and environmental sustainability. Critical to stable delivery of investments is the relationship with consenting authorities, in particular the sector ministry and municipalities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms with the following undertakings:

- The Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against schemes that require an EIA or biodiversity assessment according to EU and national law without, prior to commitment, receiving consent from the competent authority, and the EIA having been made available to the public. Once the EIA is made available to the public, its electronic copy must be placed on the Promoter's website and maintained until the completion of reporting as required by the financing contract. The promoter shall provide the link to that website and a copy of the EIA to the Bank. The EIA will be published on the Bank's website.
- The Promoter shall store and maintain updated the relevant documents (including environmental studies related to the EIA, and Nature/Biodiversity Assessments or equivalent documents supporting the compliance with the EU Habitats and Birds Directives – Form A/B or equivalents) to be provided to the Bank upon request. In case the EIB requires such documentation, the Promoter shall provide all documents requested promptly.