

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: KOMMUNALE WIRTSCHAFTSFOERDERUNG BRANDENBURG
Project Number: 2018-005
Country: Germany
Project Description: Framework Loan to finance a joint national and Federal State of Brandenburg programme supporting investments by public entities to improve business-related municipal infrastructure in support of regional development in this EIB Cohesion Priority Region.

EIA required: This is a multi-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The operation is a Framework Loan to support the business-related municipal infrastructure of the Brandenburg Region, a less developed region, implemented by the promotional bank Investitionsbank des Landes Brandenburg (ILB).

The EIB Project will focus on mainly small scale schemes promoted by regional authorities, municipal associations or not-for-profit organisations and include for example new or extended industrial parks/business centres (SMEs), modernisation of training centres, public tourism infrastructure, as well as missing technical or supporting infrastructure to promote/sustain economic transformation/growth. These will be focused on 15 towns (or clusters of towns) and cities which have underutilised economic potential and can act as growth poles in driving Brandenburg's regional development.

The schemes are expected to have a limited temporary impact during the construction phase usually through increased local traffic and construction effects, as well as demolition waste generated. These impacts could be mitigated by adhering to good practices and by following the recommendations of the competent authority.

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, 25th October 2018

As part of improvements to public tourism infrastructure, cycleways may be renewed or extended and these can contribute to climate action mitigation. In some parts of the region, the Project will be instrumental in supporting structural economic transformation away from employment in such heavy carbon emitting sectors as lignite to more environmentally sustainable activities. Schemes which address remediation of brownfield sites are incentivised. It is not anticipated that components of the Project would interact with protected sites.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The Project is expected to bring positive social impacts through the stimulation of economic growth throughout the region, at the sub-regional level addressing diverse types of areas including sparsely populated type areas, as well as those undergoing structural economic transformation and socio-economically vulnerable districts and cities.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Schemes are certified by the competent authority on their compatibility with applicable regional plans. Regional and sub-regional plans (5) are subject to public consultation, as well as Strategic Environmental Assessment (according to the laws §§ 9 - 11 ROG and § 2a Abs. 1 RegBkPIG). Individual schemes may also be subject to public consultation in line with the EIA law.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Schemes will be required to comply with 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) and Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), as transposed into national law.

In projects where applicable, the Promoter will be requested to deliver the Non-Technical Summaries of EIAs to the Bank before Bank funds are allocated and assure it has been made available to the public. For Schemes having a potential impact on protected areas including Natura 2000 sites, the Promoter has to provide confirmation of the compliance (including screening) with the Habitats and Birds Directives (if applicable) before the Bank funds are allocated. Such schemes shall not be allocated against EIB funds unless the related authorisations are in place.

The overall institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed satisfactory, stemming from the Promoter's track record of implementing EIB Framework Loan operations. Given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning EIA and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities in Germany, subject to the conditions mentioned above, the Framework Loan is acceptable in environmental and social terms.