

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: RIVER BASINS FLOOD PREVENTION  
Project Number: 2018 – 0025  
Country: Italy  
Project Description: CONSTRUCTION OF SEVERAL MEASURES ALONG RIVERS IN THE REGION OF TUSCANY IN ORDER TO REDUCE FLOOD IMPACTS.

EIA required: depending on the screening results

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The project involves the construction of three flood water retention ponds along the river Arno (Leccio, Prulli and Restone); as well some dykes works (rehabilitation, elevation); intervention on two tributaries of the River Arno (Torrents Chiesimone and Gagliana); rehabilitation of a bridge on the River Arno and works to connect an existing flood water retention pond (Pizziconi) to the River Arno. The works are located upstream of Florence (roughly 30 km).

Compliance with the relevant EU environmental Directives, transposed into the Italian legislation under Presidential ordinance n.3598 of 15/06/2007 (Article 3 point 4), is required for the project (Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, Birds Directive 2009/147/EC and Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC). The Promoter is well aware of the requirements of the Italian and European legislation and will act according to the relevant EU Directives' provisions. So far, three schemes of the project (flood water retention ponds of Prulli and Restone and water intake infrastructure for an existing flood water retention pond, Pizziconi) have been screened by the competent authority in 2017 and they confirmed that no EIA was required. One remaining scheme (flood water retention pond of Leccio) will be presented to the competent authority at the end of 2018 for screening. They all fall under Annex 2 of the Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU.

The Regional Competent Authority for the Environment is a dedicated office ("Ufficio Compatibilità Ambientale") within the Environment and Land Department.

The project is consistent with the Flood Risk Management Plan of the Northern Apennines River Basin District (PGRA, Piano di Gestione Rischio Alluvioni), which has been approved through national resolution n°235 of 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 and has been subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) conducted in 2015, in compliance with the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC.

The project schemes are defined according to the plan for hydrogeological-risk reduction - "Piano Stralcio per la difesa dal rischio Idrogeologico (PAI)". They were identified as priority schemes in the PGRA.

Luxembourg, 06<sup>th</sup> July 2018

The programme is expected to have net positive environmental and social impacts. Potential negative effects on water bodies, biodiversity, landscape, etc. during construction and operation will be alleviated by implementing effective mitigation measures as required by the competent authority.

No Natura 2000 sites are impacted by the project.

### **Social Assessment, where applicable**

It is likely that the frequency and intensity of flash floods linked to short-term, intense precipitation will increase in the watershed as a consequence of climate change. The project will increase the resilience of the downstream areas to natural disasters and climate change flood related events, and will contribute to long-term sustainable growth in the area.

The construction of flood water retention ponds will impact private properties (houses and arable lands) and will require compensations which are stipulated by the competent authorities in the various decrees screening out the various schemes.

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required**

The public consultation on the Flood Risk Management Plan and relative environmental reports have been carried out as prescribed by the SEA Directive and national procedures. The relevant documentation is available on the River Basin District Authority website.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

N.A.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

In line with the EU Directives, the project will increase the resilience of the downstream areas to natural disasters and climate change, and will contribute to long-term sustainable growth in the area. Especially, the city of Florence, which has invaluable national heritage monuments and arts pieces and is a highly touristic destination.

The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including the EIA (2011/92/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives.

The promoter shall not allocate any EIB funds to a project component that requires an EIA or biodiversity assessment according to the provisions of respectively, without, prior to commitment, receiving the consents from the competent authorities, and the NTS of the EIA has been made available to the public. The non-technical summaries of the full EIAs and the EIAs will be sent to the Bank to be published on its website.

The Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against any scheme that impact nature conservation sites, without receiving from the relevant competent authorities 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.

Copies of the relevant documents, including the consents and approvals will be submitted on request, to the EIB.

Under these conditions, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in Environmental and Social terms.