

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	PARTNERSHIP FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
Project Number:	2018-0072
Country:	Serbia
Project Description:	Revitalization of public infrastructure in the most deprived and poorest municipalities in the country.
EIA required:	This is multi-scheme investment programme. Individual schemes might fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive and need to be screened by the Competent Authority.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project will be located in Serbia, an EU candidate country, currently in the process of alignment with the EU acquis. In particular, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU has been partially transposed and full transposition including amendments introduced by Directive 2014/52/EU is expected to be achieved soon.

The Promoter of the project is the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self Government (MPALSG). Although the Promoter is fully responsible for the application of EIB standards, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the day-to-day implementation of the Project. The PIU activities of the PIU will be overseen by the Promoter and include the procurement of turnkey civil works contracts and design services, site supervision, administration and overall quality assurance. The Promoter and the PIU will be Responsible for implementing the project in line with the environmental and social standards of the Bank.

The Project is comprised of small investments in public infrastructure in municipalities affected by migration and/or assessed as underdeveloped. The investments will focus on the following categories of local infrastructure:

- a) Repair and improvement of Public Buildings
- b) (Re)Construction of local markets
- c) Renewal of Public Space and Local Amenities
- d) Repair of other elements of local infrastructure

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, 17th July, 2018

Given the small scale of the investments, it is considered unlikely that the requirement for carrying out an EIA will be triggered by the Project. In the event that an EIA is deemed necessary, the Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives and will be requested to deliver the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) to the Bank. The Competent Authority for screening and issuing approvals of EIAs is the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection.

The protected areas of the country are not expected to be affected by the operation given the small scale and predominantly urban location of investments.

Overall, the Project will have a net positive environmental impact due to the realisation of energy efficiencies from the replacement of street lighting and upgrade of public buildings, and improved sanitation of local markets.

Negative environmental impacts are generally expected to be confined to noise and dust arising from the construction phase, and these will be temporary and reversible.

Social Assessment

The overall social impact is expected to be positive due to improved access to public buildings (providing for mobility impaired), additional employment in municipal markets and a general improvement in the quality of life due to the renewal of urban spaces. Given the small scale of investments, the project is unlikely to trigger any permanent involuntary resettlement (either physical or economic). In case of any unforeseen displacement (permanent or temporary) should be identified the promoter supported by the PIU will be managing it in line with EIB standard 6.

Serbia has ratified all core labour standards. The promoter, through the PIU, is committed to make grievance mechanism available to all project personnel including contractors and sub-contractors. Furthermore tender documents and subsequent agreements with selected contractors will include requirement relative to the management of environmental and social aspects of the contract works in line with the applicable national requirements, ILO standards and EU requirements (including: working conditions, occupational and community health and safety).

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The investments are generally expected to be derived from, or included in, local development and capital investment plans that are subject to public consultation. In addition, open public debates are held annually on municipal budgets, which provide for capital expenditure among other items. In the event of any investment scheme requiring an EIA, there will be an accompanying requirement for further public consultation. The promoter (through the PIU) will include a grievance mechanism accessible to project beneficiaries and construction workers.

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Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project is expected to result in an overall positive environmental and social impact. Minor negative impacts may be expected during the construction phase but these are likely to be temporary and reversible.

The Promoter and PIU will be required to act according to 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) Directives. In schemes requiring EIA, the Promoter's PIU will be requested to deliver the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) to the Bank.

For schemes having a potential impact on protected areas, the Promoter's PIU has to provide evidence of the compliance (including screening) with the Habitats and Birds Directives (if applicable).

The promoter will implement and operate the project in conformity with all applicable national laws, regulations and EIB standards.

The promoter, with the support of PIU, will assure that systems are in place to monitor compliance with international labour, health and safety standards as well as an accessible project wide grievance mechanism.

The capacity of the Promoter's PIU to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed satisfactory. Therefore, subject to the conditions mentioned above, this operation is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.