

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	Bolivia Mi Agua Water and Sanitation
Project Number:	2017-0789
Country:	Bolivia
Project Description:	The project consists of water and sanitation investments in a series of municipalities of Bolivia
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The proposed project will finance a number of water and sanitation projects in the rural areas of Bolivia. These investments are part of the MIAGUA Programme, which is based on Bolivia's National Plan for Irrigation Development (Plan Nacional de Desarrollo del Riego – PNRD), via 831 Supreme Decree of March 30, 2011 and intends to provide universal coverage of water supply and wastewater management in the whole country.

The project will have significant environmental benefits by collecting and treating the wastewater thus reducing the pollution in the water bodies. The project will also contribute to climate change adaptation by improving water security in scarce areas and climate change mitigation by reducing the emission of greenhouse gases due to the lack of proper treatment for the wastewater.

The Project is a continuation of the previous MIAGUA (I to IV) co-financed between the Government of Bolivia and the Corporacion Andina de Fomento (CAF). The EIB investment will focus on water treatment, distribution network, household water connections, metering and water storage; and wastewater collection and treatment across the country's small municipalities. The majority of the sub-projects will focus in rural areas of up to 150 households per system. Implementation of the Project is expected to take place between 2018 and 2022.

At National level, the sector and the project scope described above will be subject to national legislation and decrees, which ensure its appropriate implementation. The main national laws

---

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Luxembourg, 18 September 2018

which apply to the project are Law Number 1333 (Environmental Law) and the Regulations on Prevention and Environmental Control (RPCA). The former regulates general Environmental Protection in the Country and the latter, defines the required environmental regime and licensing requirements of activities that interfere with the natural environment, including categorization of projects and procedures for Environmental Impact Assessments.

According to the National legislation and the types of sub-projects expected during the Programme MIAGUA V, sub-projects are unlikely to require EIAs. In the unlikely event that sub-projects require full EIAs, these will not be commenced until obtaining all the necessary approvals from the competent authority.

The vice-Ministry of Biodiversity, Forestry and Environment is the competent authority at National Level. However, as the project will be of a regional approach, the competent authority for issuing any Environmental Permits, when required, will be the Directorate of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) from the specific region where each sub-project is located. The DNRE will be responsible for approving and ensuring appropriate monitoring of ESIA's and its recommendations. In addition, the Promoter will be required to follow the Bank's Environmental and Social Standards.

In order to support the implementation, the Promoter will be assisted by consultants appointed by the MMAyA through its project implementation unit (UCP). This component of the MIAGUA Programme will cover the recruitment of social and environmental consultants to support the local beneficiaries and FPS supervisors, in sub-projects tasks such as: compliance with procedures, permits, licenses and authorizations, which are necessary for obtaining environmental permits for each sub-project. In addition, Technical Assistance financed with the loan, will monitor that the implementation of sub-projects follows the Bank's Environmental and Social Standards.

### **Social Assessment**

The project is expected to bring important lasting benefits to the population by increasing the quality and reliability of water and wastewater services. The project will generally benefit public health, either by increasing or improving sanitation services, and by collecting and treating wastewater before discharging into receiving waters bodies. The Project will also produce a significant positive impact on temporary employment.

Considering the nature of the sub-projects financed by the MIAGUA Programme, the exact location and nature of the water and wastewater sub-projects is not detailed at this stage, but the main beneficiaries are expected to be located in rural areas. Based on previous phases of the programme, social negative impacts are likely to be limited to possible disruption of services and traffic, noise and temporary occupation of public and private space, and safety hazards during construction only. The project is not expected to cause any involuntary resettlement. In the unlikely event that temporary economic or physical displacement becomes necessary during implementation the promoter will be responsible for the preparation of satisfactory documentation required under EIB standard 6 (including resettlement action plans).

The MIAGUA program is demand driven. Local communities collectively agree, prepare and propose sub-projects or schemes to the Government, for funding. Their direct contribution entails the preparation of studies, plans and provision labour.

A Community Development (Desarrollo Comunitario – DESCOM) Program will support the community during implementation of sub-projects approved for financing. This program

Luxembourg, 18 September 2018

includes: community training about water usage, scarcity, value; economic, financial and technical capacitation for the community based enterprises to be established; training on day-to-day management activities in the provision of water and wastewater services.

Bolivia has ratified all Fundamental ILO Conventions. The promoter shall ensure that agreements with the selected contractors, include requirements to guarantee that environmental and social aspects of works are carried out in line with the applicable national requirements, ILO standards and EIB standards. The promoter will apply a program-wide grievance mechanism.

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

The sub-projects that require full EIA will be subject to Public Consultation according to the relevant legislation.

The MIAGUA program is likely to include in its beneficiaries indigenous people. The 2009 Constitution secures rights of Indigenous People in Bolivia (together with other laws such as Law 450 on the protection of indigenous people). In specific, article 352 determines the need to a free, prior in time and informed consultation with the affected population.

The promoter will nevertheless prepare a stakeholder engagement framework in line with the principles mentioned above (and EIB satisfaction) to enhance access to information and broad community support.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The project contributes towards the fulfilment of SDGs, particularly SDG 6 on “Clean water and sanitation” and SDG 1 on “Poverty Reduction”. Overall the project has positive net social and environmental benefits.

Based on the information available and characteristics of the Project, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) are unlikely to be required for the majority of the sub-projects. However, if and when required these will be prepared according to the National Legislation and to the satisfaction of the Bank.

The impacts expected from the sub-projects are largely construction related and can be addressed through adoption of good engineering practices and appropriate mitigation measures during project implementation.

Taking into consideration the conditions and undertakings below, the project is considered acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective.

### **Disbursement conditions**

- When required, the promoter shall submit the full ESIA (including all relevant annexes) for each sub-project, to the satisfaction of the Bank, completed and approved by the relevant competent authority. The Promoter shall send the NTS of the ESIA and the ESIA to the EIB for publication on its website.

Luxembourg, 18 September 2018

- The Promoter shall develop a Stakeholder Engagement framework to the satisfaction of the Bank and a Grievance Mechanism, in line with the Bank's standards.

#### **Undertakings**

- The Promoter shall not commit any funds against any sub-project located in a protected or sensitive area without receiving the consent from the competent environmental authority and submitting the relevant forms to the Bank.
- The promoter shall comply with the applicable laws, ILO labour standards and international best practices and relevant contracts financed under the Project shall include specific clauses on these undertakings.
- The Promoter shall ensure that the sub-projects (including all works performed by the contractors) are carried out in accordance with the provisions contained in any required ESIA documents and ESMPs.
- The Promoter will report to the Bank on the status of project implementation and compliance with any Environmental and Social Management Plans every six months until completion of the project.
- The promoter shall implement the sub-projects in accordance with the EIB Environmental and Social Standards.

PJ/SQM/ECSO 15.10.15