



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 15 July 2018

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name: *Bacau Water and Wastewater*
 Project Number: *2015-0701*
 Country: *Romania*
 Project Description: *Allocation under NSRF Co-financing Facility framework loan (2008 0170) in relation to extension and rehabilitation of the water supply and sewerage systems in Bacau County (Phase 1).*

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

The measures consisted of investments concerning drinking water treatment and distribution, as well as wastewater collection and treatment for seven agglomerations/water supply zones situated in the County of Bacau. Bacau County is located in the eastern part of Romania. There are two mayor river valleys in the County (Trotus and Oituz). The project contributed to the protection of water bodies by implementing works that treat wastewater to the standards required by the EU Directive for Urban Waste Water Treatment 91/271 EEC and by ensuring an efficient and sustainable use of water resources. In addition, the project contributes to the compliance of Romania with the EU Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC.

Only the Phase I of the project was implemented, and it contributed to: (i) Improve the environmental situation in Bacau County - and reduce the health risk for the population living in the area due to the extension of sewer networks and the extension of the existing new wastewater treatment plant together with implementation of the tertiary treatment for reducing the concentration of N and P, (ii) improve the water quality in the receptors rivers and (iii) reduce the pollution of soil & subsoil and groundwater.

The Project included provisions for the establishment of strategies and action plans for sludge and industrial wastewater management, the latter with a view to safeguarding the operation of wastewater treatment processes and safe sludge disposal. These action plans were developed by the Technical Assistance contracted for the Project Management and Supervision of the works.

The Project was part of the SOPs (Sectoral Operational Programmes) that fell under SEA¹ Directive and the procedure was undertaken accordingly (the Aviz de Mediu was issued on 31st of January 2007).

The Project is covered by Annex II of the EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by Directives 97/11/EC and 2003/35/EC. The regional environmental protection agency (EPA-Bacau

¹ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, OJ L 197 of 21.7.2001.



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established that a full EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure) was only necessary for the Bacau agglomeration.

The EIA was carried out and the “Environmental Agreement” was issued on December 2010. For the rest of the agglomerations, Negative Screening Decisions were issued.

The negative screening decisions were made available to the public through publications in the premises of the EPA. No comments from the public were registered.

The Relevant authorities confirmed that the Project did not have any significant effects on Natura 2000 sites.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion, based on reports from the promoter that the Phase I of the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.