



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 30 July 2018

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name: *Caras Severin Water and Wastewater*
 Project Number: *2015-0705*
 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 Caras Severin 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 in drinking water treatment and distribution, as well as wastewater collection and treatment for eight agglomerations/water supply zones situated in the County of Caras Severin. Caras Severin County is located in the western part of Romania on the frontier with the Republic of Serbia. It is also the county through which the Danube River enters Romania. Other rivers in the County are the Cerna, Timis, Oravita, Barzava and Bistra.

The project contributes 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 Phase 1 of the project was implemented, so the project contributed only partially, to: (i) Improve the environmental situation in Caras Severin County - and reduce the health risk for the population living in the area due to the extension of sewer networks (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 together with the Application for the EU Grant.

The Project is part of the SOPs (Sectoral Operational Programmes) that falls under SEA¹ Directive and the procedure was undertaken accordingly.

The Project falls under Annex II of the EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by Directives 97/11/EC and 2003/35/EC. The following negative screening decisions were issued by the regional environmental protection agency (EPA-Caras Severin): Resita no. 353; Caransebes no. 352; Bocsa no. 356; Otelu Rosu no. 354; Moldova Noua no. 357; Oravita no. 351; Anina no. 355; Baile Herculane no. 358 in October 2011.

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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The public was informed about the content of the negative screening decisions through publications in media on EPA's Caras Severin website, on the website of the Promoter (S.C. AQUACARAS SA), at City Halls and Promoter's locations. No comments were received from the public.

The Relevant authorities confirmed that the Project did not have any significant effect 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 1 of the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.