

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: ASA LIVORNO WATER INFRA UPGRADES
 Project Number: 2017-0838
 Country: Italy
 Project Description: Investments in water and wastewater infrastructure in the Provinces of Livorno, Pisa and Siena (Tuscany Region) during the period 2018-2022.

EIA required: yes

This is an investment programme made up of multiple schemes. Some of them might require an EIA under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EC amending Directive 2011/92/EC.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns the 2018-2022 water and wastewater investment programme of Azienda Servizi Ambientali SpA (“ASA”), a utility providing Integrated Water Services (“IWS”) in the Province of Livorno, in the Region of Tuscany. The Promoter’s service area - known as *Conferenza Territoriale n. 5 Toscana Costa* (“CT5”) – covers 32 municipalities with a total population of ca. 370,000 inhabitants.

The activities of ASA are under the supervision of the regional authority (“Autorità Idrica Toscana”) and the national economic regulator (“ARERA”). In terms of environmental regulation, the Regional Environmental Protection Agency of Tuscany (“ARPAT”) is responsible for monitoring the quality of water bodies and ensuring compliance with environmental permits issued by the competent authorities (e.g. effluent discharge standards). The Health Authority (“USL”) is responsible for monitoring compliance with the drinking water quality standards.

The project consists of numerous small to medium size investments aimed at upgrading and optimising the existing water production, transfer and distribution systems as well as the wastewater collection and treatment works. The timing and nature of the works included in the project are geared towards compliance with national and European legislation, notably the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC) and the respect of the service standards defined in the concession agreement, which governs the Promoter’s activities in the service area.

The 30-y master plan of the Region of Tuscany (*Piano di Ambito Toscano* – “PdA”) is the planning framework of the proposed operation. The PdA – revised in 2016 – has been subject

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.

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to a Strategic Environmental Assessment ("SEA") in accordance with the requirements of the Directive 2001/42/EC². In addition, the project is designed to meet the requirements of the Tuscany Water Protection Plan (*Piano di tutela della acque della Toscana*), which is the implementation, at regional level, of the River Basin Management Plans required under the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. The Italian Authorities adopted all River Basin Management Plans ("RBMPs") for the period 2016-2021, in October 2016. The RBMPs were all subject to a SEA.

Some project schemes might fall under Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Directive 2014/52/EC amending Directive 2011/92/EC. Therefore, the decision whether an EIA is required is left to the competent authority namely the Environmental and Energy Department of the Region of Tuscany, based on the criteria defined in Annex III of the EIA Directive. The project will not have an impact on Natura 2000 or other protected areas.

The operation will contribute to improving the overall quality and reliability of IWS. The project will thus deliver substantial environmental quality improvements and health benefits that outweigh the negative impacts, which occur mainly during construction (e.g. traffic, noise and dust) and can be effectively mitigated according to established sectoral practices. Finally, the project is expected to contribute to Climate Mitigation by supporting investments in energy efficiency, hence reducing GHG emissions.

Social Assessment, where applicable

Negative social impacts are only temporary and include possible disruption of services and traffic, noise and temporary occupation of public and private space, as well as safety hazards during the construction phase, which will be addressed as part of the planning for the implementation of each scheme.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The Promoter will be requested to ensure compliance with national and European environmental legislation, notably to facilitate public access to environmental information and guarantee public consultation during the environmental decision process, where relevant, in accordance with the Aarhus Convention. Furthermore, all EIAs will be made available to the public on the EIB website.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

During the project's due diligence, the Promoter has demonstrated sound practice with respect to environmental, health and safety management. In addition to procedures to meet regulatory requirements, the Promoter has a comprehensive environmental management system which is applied to new projects and monitors ongoing operations. The Promoter has the following certifications: ISO 9001 (Quality Certification), ISO 14001 (Environmental Certification), ISO 50001 (Energy Management Certification) and OSHAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety).

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is driven by the requirement to ensure compliance with relevant EU environmental directives and it will also contribute towards improved climate resilience and emissions reductions. All schemes under the project will be subject to the Promoter's compliance with the following requirements:

² AIT, Delibera n. 7 del 31 marzo 2016

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1. The Promoter undertakes not to allocate Bank funds to project schemes that require a full EIA until the EIA and/or the necessary nature assessment have been finalised and approved by the relevant competent authority. Once any EIA is available, the promoter will provide the Bank with an electronic copy of its Non-Technical Summary ("NTS") and full copy of the EIA, for publication on the EIB website.
2. The Promoter shall not commit any EIB funds against any scheme that impacts nature conservation sites, without receiving from the relevant competent authorities the 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.
3. The Promoter undertakes to provide to the Bank, if requested, any decision and subsequent justification that screen out project schemes from the requirement of a full EIA as well as the decisions issued by the competent authorities regarding the Habitats and Birds Directives.

Under these conditions the operation is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.