

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	MERIDIAM INFRASTRUCTURE AFRICA FUND TOP UP
Project Number:	2018-0638
Country:	Regional - Africa
Project Description:	Top up investment in Meridiam Infrastructure Africa Parallel Fund, a pan-African equity fund focussing on greenfield infrastructure investments, predominantly in energy, transport and environmental sectors and, selectively, in social and telecommunications sectors.
EIA required:	Yes - Some investments may be subject to an ESIA
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

This operation concerns a commitment of up to EUR 15m in Meridiam Infrastructure Africa Parallel Fund (together with Meridiam Infrastructure Africa Fund, the “**Fund**” or “**MIAF**”) as a top up to EIB’s prior equity commitment of EUR 30m, which was made at the Fund’s first close of EUR 207m in June 2015 (operation 2014-0518).

MIAF is a pan-African equity fund focusing on greenfield infrastructure investments, predominantly in energy, transport and environmental sectors and, selectively, in social and telecommunications sectors. It targets projects in French speaking sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Africa, and, to a lesser extent, North Africa. It has invested in 11 projects to date.

MIAF is managed by Meridiam SAS (the “**Fund Manager**”), an established infrastructure fund manager that has been investing in infrastructure in Europe, Africa and North America since 2007 and a well-known counterpart to the EIB.

The legal documentation signed by the Fund and the Bank in the context of EIB’s first commitment to the Fund, and specifically, the Fund’s legal documentation, make it mandatory for the Fund to ensure that the Fund and its underlying projects comply with the EIB Environmental and Social Standards, which include, inter alia, the requirement for the Fund

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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Manager to hire an E&S officer and to implement an ESMS that incorporates a grievance mechanism. Given new policy developments and requirements especially with respect to gender, land tenure and climate vulnerability assessments, the ESMS will need to be enhanced and updated to meet EIB E&S requirements. This includes also the list of excluded activities and the requirement for inclusion of additional indicators for monitoring.

Climate Mitigation

The Fund will contribute to the development of renewable energy projects, reducing CO2 emissions and increasing the participation of Renewable Energy in the energy mix. In addition, certain of the Fund's investments in transport are likely to deliver additional environmental benefits related to depollution and decarbonisation.

Overall, as per the Fund Manager's pipeline, at least 35% of the Fund's investments (those corresponding to Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency investments) are expected to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The appraisal didn't evidence any material issue related to environmental and social issues in any of the Fund's current investments.

During its first three years of operations the Fund Manager has built up significant E&S capacity. A dedicated E&S officer has been hired. Although an adequate ESMS has been put in place for the first fund, including governance and monitoring mechanism, this ESMS will need to be updated and enhanced in line with the latest policy developments. The exclusion list will need to be reviewed and adapted to the Bank's current list of excluded activities as well as the list of restricted activities.