

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	TIM MOBILE NETWORK
Project Number:	2019-0241
Country:	Italy
Project Description:	The project concerns an early deployment of 5G and the upgrade of the promoter's Italian mobile network with advanced 4G/LTE and 5G equipment. Through these measures, the mobile coverage with higher data rates will reach 99% of population, increase the network capacity to cope with the strong traffic growth and allow for top speeds up to 750 Mbps. At the same time, the investments are also facilitating the expansion of the commercial 5G broadband services across the country including Fixed Wireless Access solutions. The project implementation is planned for the years 2019 to 2020.
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	No

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The project concerns various activities such as the modernisation and the expansion of existing access network sites of a mobile network, the installation of small cells in dense urban areas and the installation of backhaul transmission links. The project uses existing physical infrastructure and does not fall under the Annexes of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU.

Mobile telecommunications networks cause radiation emissions with potentially harmful effects to the environment. Most of the activities financed under this project require a permit issued by the local competent authorities. Such permits verify structural aspects as well as the compliance with Italian exposure limits.

In Europe, the radiation emissions are regulated by the EU recommendation (1999/519/EC) on radiation exposure limits (based on the ICNIRP<sup>2</sup> principles).

<sup>1</sup> Only projects that meet the scope of the Carbon Footprint Exercise, as defined in the EIB Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: 20 000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20 000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

<sup>2</sup> ICNIRP stands for International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection.

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Italy transposed them in 2003 and required even 10 times lower emission thresholds than specified in the above EU recommendation. Therefore, Italy has beside Belgium and Swiss the lowest emission levels in Europe.

Potential health risks from electromagnetic radiation issued by traditional mobile networks and cell phones have been studied extensively. The results suggest that the ICNIRP thresholds are sufficient. The used 5G bands, the modulation schemes and the specific antenna technologies are relatively new for the sector and will require additional scientific analysis to better understand this specific impact of the emerging 5G. Still the general assumption is that the ICNIRP thresholds are also sufficient for 5G mobile networks.

The visual impact represents another residual effect of the project, which is limited, as this project does not include the erecting of new sites.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The promoter is very active and ambitious in its overall corporate social standards. All activities, targets and achievements are published in a separate annual sustainability report. The data contained in the report comprises TIM's significant impacts on its stakeholders, compared to economy, environment and society. TIM reinforces such commitments also through memberships in various associations such as Global Compact (since 2000), Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and GeSI (Global e-Sustainability Initiative). The annual sustainability reporting is in compliance with GRI G4 comprehensive option including external auditing.

The promoter is listed in various sustainability indexes (status 2019,) among which are the Dow Jones Sustainability World and Europe, STOXX, FTSE4GOOD and Vigeo Eiris.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Considering the above, the project is acceptable for the Bank's financing in environmental and social terms.