

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	<i>Collèges La Réunion</i>
Project Number:	<i>2019-0342</i>
Country:	<i>France</i>
Project Description:	Le projet comprend la nouvelle construction, la reconstruction, l'extension et la rénovation de collèges (c'est-à-dire d's écoles du niveau secondaire inférieur) et d'autres infrastructures culturelles et éducatives sous la responsabilité du Département de La Réunion en France. Le projet intègre 15 opérations d'investissement en faveur des collèges et d'autres infrastructures culturelles et éducatives.
EIA required:	To be determined
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project involves the construction of two new schools, renovation of 6 schools as well as the renovation and improvement of other education and museum facilities owned and operated by the *département* across the island of La Réunion, located in the Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Mauritius. Furthermore, the project includes – as a means to accelerate – the completion of investments to improve the accessibility of the education buildings for students with mobility impairment.

The project aims to enhance and create modern internal learning and working spaces in the new and renovated schools, museums and other *département* education related facilities. One of the objectives of the promoter is to create spaces that have thermic comfort without the use of mechanical ventilation or air conditioning. The project will also realise energy efficiency improvements through the installation of tri-generation kitchen equipment, insulation techniques and passive building façade features using the best available technologies that will reduce overall energy consumption in the affected schools. The project also supports increasing the resilience of the island's schools and department buildings adapting them to increasing climate change risks.

Schools and education facilities of this kind are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending EU Directive 2011/92/EU, though Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development covers the project. All projects are fully covered by an approved land use plan, which can only be changed with a public consultation and the approval of the competent authority. The promoter confirmed that new construction works are being executed within predefined plots of land that have been identified for the purpose of this new construction. If the competent authority requires an EIA for either of the two project components involving new construction, the promoter shall be required to provide to the EIB the full EIA document.

Luxembourg, 4 November 2019

The design for most of the school sites remains to be finalised. However, the *département*, as part of its strategic school development plan has confirmed that the energy consumption will meet Réglementation Thermique 2016 for the French overseas *départments* and territories for all of the new and renovated buildings. This will mean that all of the buildings will be designed to have a high performance of energy efficiency. Moreover, one school, Collège Rocquefeuil, will qualify as nearly zero energy building (NZEB) under the current benchmark for La Réunion.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

There is a demographic need to provide additional school places at the lower secondary level of education, for which the *département* is responsible. Further, the condition of many of the education buildings require significant repair and modernisation, which the project will realise. In addition, the island *département* contains significant pockets of challenging socio-economic needs, some as a result of inward immigration, recognised by the designation of REP and REP+¹ in these areas. As a result, the project will be supporting the improvement of education facilities, learning environments and educational outcomes in REP and REP+ designated areas.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is enabling the *département* of La Réunion to create and modernise its lower secondary school estate infrastructure across the island. The project will contribute to the enhancement of learning environments and improve the working environment for teachers and staff alike. Due to the investment and use of new materials and technologies, the new and renovated buildings will increase the overall energy efficiency of the school infrastructure and adapt the *département's* school and education infrastructure to increasing climate change risks.

The EIB will request a copy of the full EIA for any of the school sites where this is required as a condition to the second disbursement. In addition the EIB will request that copies of the Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) or equivalent will be provided on completion of all of the project components.

In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered to be acceptable for the Bank's financing.

¹ REP (Réseaux d'éducation prioritaire) and REP+ (Réseaux d'éducation prioritaire renforcée) are designations for disadvantaged areas in France that are being prioritised for investment by the French government.