



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 12.12.19

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	<i>IPTO CYCLADES INTERCONNECTION</i>
Project Number:	<i>2010-0171</i>
Country:	<i>Greece</i>
Project Description:	<i>The Project concerns the implementation of a subsea cable grid operated at 150 kV that will connect the main Cycladic islands Syros, Tinos, Mykonos and Paros with the mainland interconnected system of Greece</i>

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

The Project involved the construction of a 105 km-long subsea link interconnecting Syros to Lavrion on the mainland, and three further subsea links connecting Syros respectively to Paros (46.8 km), Mykonos (34.6 km), and Tinos (32 km). The Project also included the construction of four new GIS (Gas Insulated) indoor substations and the corresponding land cable connections in Lavrion, Syros, Paros and Mykonos.

The characteristics of the Project are such that it is listed neither under Annex I nor Annex II of the EIA Directive. Pursuant to the Greek law, the subsea links did not require any EIA; the competent authority took this decision based on the project information provided. Pursuant to the Greek law, EIAs were carried out for all the GIS substations included in the project; they are published in EIB's website. The conclusion of the assessments was that there are no significant impacts or effects resulting from the projects, providing that the proposed mitigation and monitoring requirements were put in place. Locations of cables' landfalls and substations had been selected so to avoid sensitive areas, proximity of human settlements and the need to build new access roads. In particular there was no report of Posidonia or other protected sea grass species along the cable route and at landfalls. Mitigation measures included practices during construction to prevent any pollution at land and sea and to protect vegetation from fire.

At completion, the Promoter reported that all the required approvals decisions and permits were obtained during the administrative procedure and no significant environment or social issues were noted.

The discovery of antiquities was managed in accordance in Greek Law. All excavation works were carried out under the supervision of representatives of the relevant Ephorates of Antiquities. When antiquities were found, works were suspended and a rescue excavation and survey was carried out.

Barriers of vegetation along the fencing of the substations has been created in order to reduce visual impact.



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The source of CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e) emissions for the project is the ohmic losses of the new network equipment being installed and the displacement of generation on the islands with generation from mainland Greece. The corresponding absolute emissions are estimated by the Bank at 228 kt CO₂e per year. The project leads to an increase in the emissions of 24 kt CO₂e per year due to the generation mix in mainland Greece. This estimation does not take into account the increase in the capacity of renewable generation on the island (not yet known) which will offset this increase.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter during Construction that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.