

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	MALOPOLSKA REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE II
Project Number:	2018-0243
Country:	POLAND
Project Description:	The project, structured as a Framework Loan, will support improvements in the healthcare sector, road infrastructure, energy efficiency in public buildings, the cultural sector and sustainable mobility. The loan will be signed under the Programme Loan POLAND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME (2017-0081).
EIA required:	This is a multi-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The operation, structured as a Framework Loan, will support schemes from the regional investment programme to improve quality and effectiveness of the healthcare services, improve transport mobility in the region, increase the energy efficiency of public buildings and utilize the resources of regional heritage and culture to strengthen its position as regional leader in terms of leisure industries. The regional investment programme is supported by the "Development Strategy of the Malopolska Region for 2011-2020".

The Regional Development Strategy was subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), carried out in 2007 and updated in 2014². The majority of investments are due to be implemented within the framework of the Regional Operational Programme 2014-2020.

Schemes financed under this operation will be mainly of small size (project cost less than EUR 25m) and not expected to have significant negative environmental or social impacts.

However, some schemes could have limited temporary environmental impacts during the construction phase and, potentially, during their operation stemming from permanent land-use change. Environmental impacts during construction may come from increased local traffic through traffic-related air pollution, exhaust gas and noise emissions, and generation of construction and demolition noise, waste and vibration.

¹ 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 CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

² <https://bip.malopolska.pl/umwm.a.984725,uchwala-nr-lvi89414-sejmiku-województwa-malopolskiego-z-dnia-27-pazdziernika-2014-w-sprawie-zmiany-u.html>

Luxembourg, 05.11.2019

Thus, the construction of certain schemes may have impacts on air, water, soil, flora, fauna, landscape, cultural and historic monuments, archaeological, geological sites, carbon and climate change. These direct impacts will have to be mitigated by adhering to good industry practice, following environmental management plans, and by carrying out the recommendations of the relevant competent authority. Depending on the type, characteristics and size of schemes, environmental impact assessments (EIA) may be required.

Investments in the cultural sector and other social infrastructure will generate a number of positive effects, including energy savings in buildings due to insulation of walls and roofs, changing windows, improvement of lighting systems and other energy efficiency measures. In addition, sustainable mobility components will contribute to the Climate Action (mitigation).

Sustainable mobility schemes are expected to contribute to mode shift from road to public transport. Furthermore, road infrastructure schemes may be targeted to improve road safety, reduce road accidents and improve accessibility in the concerned areas. The road infrastructure schemes are to be designed according to national and European standards.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The Regional Development Strategy and Strategic Environmental Assessment were subject to comprehensive and extensive public consultations. 1,500 Malopolska residents have participated in the public debate prior to adopting the Development Strategy of the Region. Individual schemes may also be subject to public consultation in line with the EIA law.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Promoter (Malopolska region) will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including SEA (2001/42/EC), EIA (2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives and Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) as transposed into national law.

Prior to allocation of EIB funds against any specific scheme, the Promoter is to provide to the Bank the confirmation that schemes comply with relevant provisions of the environmental EU Directives, including EIA (2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives as transposed into the national law. In addition, the Promoter will be requested to deliver the EIAs (if applicable) to the Bank before the use of Bank funds.

For schemes triggering Art. 4.7 of the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the Promoter has to provide evidence of the compliance with the WFD before the Bank funds are allocated.

The overall institutional capacity of the Promoter is deemed satisfactory since it has established solid procedures to manage environmental and social issues. Therefore, given the type of operation, and subject to the conditions mentioned above, the FL is acceptable to the Bank in environmental and social terms.

PJ/SQM/ECSO 01.02.2019