

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	KIELCE URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE
Project Number:	2015-0150
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	Municipal framework loan to finance investments indicatively identified by the promoter for EIB co-financing. Eligible schemes will involve urban renewal and regeneration and sustainable urban transport investments. The majority of the investments will be co-financed by the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF).
EIA required:	This is a multiple-scheme operation. Some of the schemes are likely to fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive and may be screened in.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

The objectives of the Project are in line with the urban development strategy for which the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) according to directive 2001/42/EC is carried out.

The Project is a multi-sector framework loan. Given the relative small size of the individual schemes and the nature of the sectors concerned, most of the schemes are deemed not to have significant environmental impacts.

It is likely that some infrastructure schemes will fall under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, under Annex II. Should any scheme under this framework loan fall under Annex II and be "screened in" by the Competent Authority, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, if applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

Kielce has a number of protected areas including Natura 2000 and cultural heritage sites. Therefore, it is likely that some schemes will be located in their vicinity. The Competent Authority will be required to provide evidence of compliance with the Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives (Form A/B or equivalent) and national directives related to historical conservation sites before the Bank funds are allocated.

The overall environmental and social impact of the framework loan is expected to be positive, with improved environment and quality of life for the citizens. The institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed good and therefore, subject to the conditions described above, the Project is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Polish EIA law, which is fully compliant with EU Directives, entered into force in November 2008 (Act on Providing Information on the Environment and Environmental Protection, Public Participation in Environmental Protection and on Environmental Impact Assessment). According to the Act, the Competent Authority issuing environmental permits for urban roads of national significance is the Regional Director for Environmental Protection (RDEP) after consultation with the Regional Sanitary Inspectorate. For other urban projects

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.

(i.e. other urban roads, urban renewal, etc.) the Competent Authority is the Mayor of the City. The competent authority for Natura 2000 areas is the corresponding "Voivodship's" Regional Director for Environmental Protection.

The Project will mainly involve investments in urban renewal and regeneration, sustainable urban transport and energy efficiency in public buildings. The construction and refurbishing works are expected to have some minor negative impacts during the implementation period. Once the works are completed, it is generally expected that the overall net environmental impact will be positive.

Social Assessment, where applicable

No separate social impact assessment has been carried out; however, it is generally deemed that the overall social impacts of the framework loan are positive, with improved quality of life for the inhabitants of Kielce.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Strategy for Low Carbon Economy provides guidance to enhance energy efficiency, environmental protection and climate change resilience. Climate change is also taken into account in the City's land-use planning through flood risk management to minimise flood risk in the urbanised area, through planning measures to maintain or increase the proportion of green spaces in the built up area, through the City's mobility policy favouring public transport, and through the City's energy efficiency policy.