Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview	
Desire (No. 19	
Project Name:	ROMANIAN NATIONAL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project Number:	2015-0562
Country:	Romania
Project Description:	National Programme supporting the development of small water supply and wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure of Romanian local authorities

EIA required:

yes

This is a multi-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may require an EIA. The Promoter shall provide the link to a website where Non-Technical Summaries (NTSs) are published or send their copies to the Bank before projects are allocated.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

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

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

National Local Development Programme bears the characteristics of financial programmes. Therefore it was not subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The schemes will have a number of impacts on the environment, both positive and negative. Impacts during the construction and operation phase are expected to be mitigated by good practice and work organisation following the competent authorities' requirements.

Some of the schemes are likely to fall under Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU. Further, some of the schemes in the Programme are likely to have impacts on protected sites and therefore will be subject to a nature assessment according to Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EC.

The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU directives, including the EIA, Habitats and Birds Directives. Should an EIA be required, the Promoter will be obliged to make the Non-Technical Summary of the EIAs publicly available. The Promoter shall verify the compliance of the final beneficiaries with the relevant and applicable rules of the European Union legislation, in particular in the fields of environment.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

In Romania, the Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure (EIA) is carried out according to Governmental Ordinance 860/2002 with subsequent amendments and according to the Government Decision 1213/2006, transposing the EIA Directive. The different components of the overall project fall under the jurisdiction of the local environmental protection agencies in the various project counties.

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.

The operation will focus on the water supply, wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure compliant with regional Water and Wastewater Master Plans. This infrastructure is implemented by local authorities in small settlements. National Local Development Programme includes also a local roads component, which however will not be financed by the Bank in this operation.

In accordance with agreed transitional arrangements, Romania must comply with the European Directive 98/83/EC on drinking water quality by 2015 and the Directive 91/271/EC on urban wastewater treatment by the end of 2018.

The projects are expected to contribute to the protection of water bodies by implementing the EU Directive for Urban Waste Water Treatment (EU Directive 91/271 EEC) and by ensuring an efficient and sustainable use of water resources. All project locations - as does all of Romanian territory - belong to the greater Danube River Basin that drains into the Black Sea.

A minor residual negative impact could potentially occur to the natural environment (e.g. loss of or disturbance to designated habitat, altering fauna diversity and densities).

Social Assessment, where applicable

The projects will generally benefit public health, by increasing or improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation services, or by collecting and treating wastewater before discharging into receiving waters bodies and eventually into the Danube and the Black Sea.

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