

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	EU FUNDS CASTILLA Y LEON CO-FINANCING 2014-20
Project Number:	20140697
Country:	Spain
Project Description:	EU co-financing of priority investments within the scope of Junta de Castilla y León's within the 2014-2020 Spanish Partnership Agreement.
EIA required:	Multiple-scheme operation. Some of the schemes may fall under Annex I or 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 purpose of this Structural Programme Loan is to support the Castilla y León region to co-finance the relevant operational programmes supported by the EU European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF) and selected priorities of Rural Development operational programmes.

The SEA and EIA Directives are both transposed in Spanish legislation in December 2013 by the 21/2013 Act of Environmental Evaluation, covering programmes and plans, and projects. Castilla y León's current legislation is the 11/2003 regional Act which complements the national legislation and adapts it to the regional circumstances. The competent authority for the evaluation of SEAs and EIAs is the Department of Environment (General Directorate of Environmental Quality and Sustainability)

The ROP's and RDOP SEAs were approved but it is possible that some schemes may fall under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, either under Annex I or Annex II. Should any scheme under this operation fall under Annex II and be "screened in" by the Competent Authority, or fall under Annex I, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank before the Bank funds are allocated.

Some of the schemes financed under this SPL are likely to be located in Natura 2000 areas or in their surroundings, particularly as far as some priorities co-financed encompass measures to improve the protection and restoration of biodiversity. In these cases, the Competent Authority has to provide evidence of compliance with the Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives (Form A/B or equivalent) before the Bank funds are allocated. The competent Natura 2000 authority at regional scale is the Department of Environment (General Directorate of Natural Environment).

The overall environmental impact of this operation is expected to be positive since some of the schemes will be focused on enhancing natural resources and increasing the use of locally abundant renewable energy sources.

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.

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The social impact of the schemes is also expected to be positive since the ESF operational programme mainly aims at improving access to employment and training for the most vulnerable parts of the population.

The institutional capacity of the promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed good, based on the institutional capacity the promoter has demonstrated, and will be enhanced through establishment of a project implementation unit. 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 national Act 21/2013 sets the framework for the procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment transposing 2001/42/EU and 2011/92/EU directives. The regional Act 11/2003 adapts the national legislation to CyL's environmental conditions

CyL has developed the national legislation established in the 42/2007 Act, of 13 December, on the Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, and established the following regional legislation for the transposition of Directives 92/43/EEC of 10 May Council of Conservation of Natural Habitats and of wild flora and fauna, and 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds:

- 4/2015 Act of 24 March, on the Natural Heritage of Castilla y León. (BOCyL 03/30/2015). It develops guidelines on the management and management transpose of the commitments resulting from the two directives and to manage the Natura 2000 network and Castilla y Leon are collected.
- 15/2015 Agreement, of March 19, of Castilla y León, approves the Master Plan for the implementation and management of the Natura 2000 network in Castilla y León (BOCyL March 23, 2015), Strategic planning document and implementation of the Natura 2000 network in Castilla y León.
- 6/2011 Decree of 10 February which sets the process of assessing the impact on the Natura 2000 Network of those plans, programs or projects developed in the territory of the Community of Castilla y Leon (BOCyL 16-02-2011).

Social Assessment, where applicable

The schemes financed under this SPL, particularly under the ESF operational programme, are expected to have important social impacts since they will address Castilla y León's challenges in the labour market. More specifically, the schemes are likely to focus on soft measures to facilitate access to employment for young and long-term unemployed and also to promote social inclusion initiatives.