



Luxembourg, 03/07/2023

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	RETAIL ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
Project Number:	2022-0526
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	The project supports energy efficiency investments in the retail stores managed by the Promoter in Poland
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns the energy efficiency renovation of existing food retail stores in Poland. The investments are expected to reduce the energy consumption of the stores through major energy renovations including, among others, the following measures: building shell insulation, improvement of HVAC (heat, ventilation, and air conditioning) and lighting systems, building energy management systems and improvement of the energy performance of the industrial refrigeration systems, including the change to refrigerants (mainly CO₂) with lower GWP (Global Warming Potential).

Therefore, the operation will contribute to the EU energy and climate objectives and support the implementation of the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) and the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED). The proposed projects will adhere to the Polish building code regulations for buildings transposing the Energy Performance Building Directive, and to the EU F-gas Regulation.

The energy efficiency measures will contribute to reducing energy consumption and subsequent running costs for the Promoter. Based on the preliminary information available at this stage the works are expected to lead to an average decrease in primary energy consumption of around 91.000 MWh meaning an estimated yearly reduction of 17000 tons of CO₂ equivalent per year.

Temporary nuisance due to construction works (dust, noise) linked to the renovations shall be mitigated through appropriate site organisation and construction management. Due to the nature of the investment, very limited environmental impacts are expected. However, the cumulative impact of sub-projects could generate significant environmental benefits in terms of reduction of air pollutants and GHG emissions.

Given the scale and nature of the sub-projects an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment), as defined under the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU, amending the 2011/92/EU, is normally not required. The capacity of the Promoter to carry out an environmental assessment of projects in line with the Bank's requirements and the national legislation has been appraised and is deemed satisfactory.

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.



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Social Assessment, where applicable

The investments will generate social benefits, in terms of supporting better health through improving air quality and supporting employment generation.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

In Poland, consultations are carried out under the EIA process and are mandatory if an EIA is required by the competent authorities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The overall environmental and social impact of the project is expected to be positive. Given the size and nature of the projects, any negative environmental impacts are expected to be mitigated. Exceptionally, a scheme may fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive. In these cases, the Bank will require the Promoter to act according to the provisions of the aforementioned Directive as transposed into national law. Should the relevant competent authority screen in a scheme, the Promoter shall deliver to the Bank the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the EIAs and the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) before the Bank funds are allocated.

The legal documentation to be concluded between the Promoter and the Bank shall include an obligation on the Promoter to ensure that all projects comply with national and European legislation (where applicable), as well as the Bank's Environmental and Social standards.

The Promoter is considered capable to select schemes complying with the Bank's specific procedures and eligibility criteria, in particular regarding the environmental and social aspects. The project is therefore considered to be acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social compliance perspective.