



Luxembourg, 08 October 2024

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name: PNG Rural Bridges  
 Project Number: 2014-0388  
 Country: Papua New Guinea  
 Project Description: Replacement of 27 obsolete single-lane steel bridges with permanent dual-lane structures on 5 priority national road corridors.

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

**EIB notes the following Environmental and Social performance and key outcomes at Project Completion.**

The implementation of the Project, which was co-financed with ADB, did not result in significant adverse environmental impacts.

Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) were prepared for the implementation phase for each of the contractors four work packages, covering both environmental and social aspects during implementation. The environmental impacts during construction were minor and common to this type of project e.g. temporary noise, vibrations, dust and increased water turbidity. River training was also carried out to protect bridge abutments and avoid landslides around the bridges and nearby riverbanks, including gabions, geotextiles, and similar treatments.

A Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) was prepared for each works package and grievance redress mechanisms were set up in the local communities near the bridges. Only one scheme on Hiritano Highway involved actual physical relocation of a limited number of residents, and this was carried out in compliance with the relevant ADB safeguards. In addition, minor pieces of land were acquired for new bridges and relocated accesses to local communities at some locations. Compensations were also paid for crops and trees, and for relocation of informal roadside stalls and shops at some locations. Affected landowners, local stakeholders, and the local communities in general, were consulted and provided relevant information throughout project implementation. Local communities also benefited from employment during bridge construction, including employment for women, various training sessions, better access to the riverbanks, and safer and more comfortable conditions for pedestrians. Minor contextual issues between workers, communities and contractors were reported during implementation, and these were handled and settled satisfactorily.

Both ADB and EIB provided social and environmental technical assistance to the PIU during implementation to monitor and assist the adherence to EIB's Environmental and Social policy.

### Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion, based on reports from the Promoter and technical assistance, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.