



Luxembourg, 29 September 2023

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	<i>GAIA WATER INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE</i>
Project Number:	<i>2017 - 0619</i>
Country:	<i>Italy</i>
Project Description:	<i>Investments for the upgrade of the water infrastructure in the service area known as Toscana Nord in the region of Tuscany, during the period 2018-2022..</i>

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

Environmental Assessment

The loan supported the 2018 – 2023 investments of GAIA (a publically owned utility providing Integrated Water Services in North Tuscany), in the water sector to meet concession requirements and compliance with national legislation and EU directives. In particular, the project aimed at the renovation and/or construction of new production wells, renovation of water treatment plants, network extension and rehabilitation, storage systems, rehabilitation of pumping stations, installation of new water meters and/or replacement of existing ones, and installation of small renewable energy interventions.

The promoter had to follow the usual undertaking related to the environmental and social impacts of the project namely:

- not to allocate Bank funds to programme components that require a full EIA until the EIA and/or the necessary nature assessment have been finalised and approved by the relevant competent authority. Once any EIA is available, the promoter will provide the Bank with an electronic copy of the EIA, for publication on the EIB website.
- not commit any EIB funds against any scheme that impacts nature conservation sites, without receiving from the relevant competent authorities the declaration under Art. 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that there are no significant effects and informing the Bank of such declaration having been obtained.
- provide to the Bank, if requested, any decision and subsequent justification that screen out project components from the requirement of a full EIA as well as the decisions issued by the competent authorities regarding the Habitats and Birds Directives.

The promoter complied with these undertakings during the project implementation.

The purpose of the project is to increase the efficiency and reliability of the water systems as the service area managed by the promoter is highly fragmented with numerous small systems and a multitude of supply sources (more than 1,100 catchments). This is part of the effort to integrate the water service from many small operators to a unique operator (Gaia S.p.a).

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:



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