

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	GDANSK MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE III
Project Number:	2015-0103
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	Co-financing of mainly small investment schemes in the City of Gdansk as part of the City's investment plan.
EIA required:	Some schemes likely to require an EIA under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	No

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

Around 75% of the investments will address urban roads, 5% public transport and the remaining 20% renewal and development of urban infrastructure. A potential list of schemes submitted by the promoter, totalling an amount four times bigger than the foreseen Project Investment Cost for the operation, included 83 schemes of which 6 are above 50m EUR and 9 between 25-50m EUR. However, the project will mainly include small schemes. Some of them may fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended). Some schemes may also have an impact on Natura 2000 sites or protected species outside Natura 2000 sites. The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the Habitats and Birds Directives and verify the compliance of each scheme with the relevant and applicable rules of the EU directives, and the Promoter shall not commit the Bank's funds to a specific scheme until the relevant environmental consent has been issued by the competent authority. The Promoter shall maintain the relevant documents updated and ready for submission to the Bank upon request.

The institutional capacity of the Promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed to be good. The Project is acceptable to the Bank from an environmental and social standpoint, subject to the above requirements.

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### General compliance with environmental legislation

The Promoter – the City of Gdansk - is obliged to follow EU legislation on the environmental impact of projects. This includes the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, and the Birds Directive 2009/147/EC. Polish legislation is fully compliant with these, and the Promoter is therefore expected to apply the relevant environmental procedures on all schemes submitted for allocation in compliance with the Polish environmental law. The requirements will be included in the project undertakings and verified at allocation stage.

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Strategic Environmental Assessments will be undertaken on the City's own operational programmes, which generate investment schemes for the present operation. The completion of SEA's for the relevant sectors will be checked at allocation stage.

#### Environmental Impacts and Mitigation measures

Some of the road schemes are likely to fall under the provisions of Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive. The Promoter shall before allocation provide the Bank with either the Non-Technical Summary of the EIA or a justification issued by the competent authority for screening out the scheme, as appropriate. This will be checked at allocation stage.

In compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives, Form A or Form B or similar declarations will be required before allocation of any scheme above 25m EUR, should such schemes be included. For schemes with project cost below EUR 25m with no potential or likely effect on conservation sites, the competent authority shall make a declaration based on the list of schemes for which allocation is requested, ensuring that they comply with the EU Habitats and Birds Directives. For each scheme with an effect on conservation sites, Form B has to be signed by the competent authority and submitted to the Bank individually.

There are four Natura 2000 areas within the City's perimeter: A Habitat Directive site around the old Wisłoujście fortification and two Habitat and Bird Directive sites around the river mouths in the eastern part of the City area (PLH220030, PLH220044 and PLB220004). Moreover, the entire Gulf of Gdansk is a birds Directive site (PLB220005). Some of the schemes in the programme are likely to be located within 1 km of one or more of these areas. Protected species such as toads, frogs and bats may also be found outside protected sites and could potentially be affected by the schemes. The Promoter is used to handle such issues in close cooperation with environmental authorities and NGO's. Any issues related to Natura 2000 and protected species will be checked at allocation stage.

Flooding is potentially an issue due the City's proximity to the sea and major areas below sea level but the Promoter has experience and capacity to consider climate actions in planning, design and operation of infrastructure projects.

#### **Social Assessment**

Land acquisition may be relevant for some schemes. No involuntary resettlement is foreseen.

#### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

Public engagement and consultations are fully integrated in all strategic and spatial planning in the City, which cooperates closely with non-governmental organisations, local interest groups and project affected people. The City conducts public consultations during EIA processes, as required and where deemed relevant, including on projects where there is no formal requirement.

#### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The Mayor in the City of Gdansk is overall responsible for environmental matters, and the Promoter – the City of Gdansk - has good experience with handling of environmental issues. The Promoter conducts an initial EIA needs assessment of schemes as a standard procedure. An information card is then prepared for each project with likely or potential impacts on the environment and submitted to the City's Department for Environment, which takes a decision whether an EIA is relevant or not according to national legislation. For smaller schemes the Environmental Decision is issued by the City's Department for Environment whereas bigger schemes proceed to the Regional Environmental Authority for decision.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The institutional capacity, procedures and experience of the Promoter to manage environmental and social issues is deemed to be good, and the operation is acceptable for EIB financing from an environmental and social standpoint.

No project conditions have been formulated but the requirements to environmental and social matters will be included in the project undertakings and verified at allocation stage.

PJ/ECSO