

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	HAMBURG WASTEWATER CLIMATE ADAPTATION
Project Number:	2019-0572
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	Financing the investment programme, including climate adaption, of Hamburg's wastewater company.
EIA required:	The project is implemented as a coherent programme that comprises a number of separate schemes. Some of them may require an EIA
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	yes

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns the investment programme of Hamburger Stadtentwässerung (HSE) for the period of 2020-2023 that will improve the efficiency and sustainability of storm water and wastewater collection and treatment in Hamburg. It includes rehabilitation and upgrading of combined sewer systems and rainwater storage basins, as well as improvements and necessary lifecycle investments at the central wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The programme also includes schemes improving energy and resource efficiency in the WWTP (e.g. phosphorus recovery, sludge digestion, heat recovery, etc.).

The proposed operation will help ensure continued compliance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, thereby contributing to protection of the environment and water security. It will also ensure continued compliance with the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive 91/271/EC.

The project's components that will result in the reduction of the overflow of the combined sewerage system will have positive impact on the quality of water bodies. Various components that reduce energy demand will further enhance resource efficiency of the promoter.

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.

Luxembourg, 20 April 2020

The promoter is a public sewage company owned by the City and Federal State of Hamburg. Statutory duties with regard to the protection of the environment are embedded within key legislation for the German water industry. The investment plan of Hamburger Stadtentwässerung does not fall under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/CE as it concerns works in an existing plant and is not part of a programme. Compliance with applicable environmental legislation (national and EU), including Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) legislation is inherent to the definition of the investments programme. The Promoter carries out EIA procedures where required by the competent authority (“Umweltbehörde” - Ministry of Environment at the federal state level) and mitigating measures are applied as appropriate.

Although net long-term environmental and social impacts will be positive, some works may require a full EIA according to Directive 2011/92/EC as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU. However, due to the nature of the works to be implemented it is anticipated that the negative environmental impacts will be associated with the period of construction and will be mainly localised and temporary.

Schemes are not expected to have any negative impact on Natura 2000 sites in Hamburg because they located far away from any Natura 2000 site.

The project contributes to the Bank’s transversal objective Climate Action Mitigation by supporting energy efficiency schemes at the wastewater treatment plant Kohlbrandhoft/Dradenau (optimisation of inlet pumping and screens, ammonium removal process) and renewable energy production from sludge.

The project will also contribute to the Bank’s transversal objective Climate Action Adaptation through the components that provide additional storage capacity for storm water and improve storm water management in the city of Hamburg to cope with increased variability in rainfall (in the context of vulnerabilities identified through the *Strukturplan Regenwasser 2030*). In addition, the WWTP will benefit from a higher storm surge protection wall to cope with increased risk of storm surge in the context of sea level rise.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

Estimated annual emissions of the project in a standard year of operation are 96,306 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year. Estimated emission savings are 53,878 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year.

For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project cost.

Social Assessment

The appraisal of the proposed investment programme has identified a number of potential positive social impacts, the most important of which are: (i) improved quality of life thanks to cleaner surface waters and reduced risk of urban flooding, (ii) continued provision of wastewater services of highest standard at affordable prices. Besides, the works, supplies and services required to implement the project will temporarily create employment in the area and beyond.

Luxembourg, 20 April 2020

Temporary adverse social impacts may include the following: disruption of services and traffic, noise, temporary occupation of public and private space, and health and safety hazards during construction. Such impacts are common for this type of project, and the mitigation of expected adverse social impacts will be addressed as part of the planning for each scheme.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The Promoter must ensure compliance with national and European environmental legislation and facilitate access by the public to environmentally relevant information in accordance with the Aarhus Convention. The Environmental Impact Assessments (if required) as well as the screening according to the relevant criteria listed in Annex III of the EIA directive 2011/92/EC as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU will be made available to the Public. The EIAs (if required) will be published on the EIB website. Consultations with affected communities and interested parties will take place in line with the requirements of the Directives.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Promoter has implemented an environmental management system in line with the standard Environmental Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) since 2008 and has been certified EN ISO 14001 since 2007. External auditors periodically control both schemes. The Promoter yearly publishes an environmental declaration (“Umwelterklärung”).

Conclusions and Recommendations

The schemes implemented under this programme will have long-term positive impacts on the environment. The project will assist in maintaining compliance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive 91/271/EC.

All schemes covered by the programme will be subject to the Promoter complying with the following requirements:

- The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including the EIA (2014/52/EC) amending the EIA Directive (2011/92/EC), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC). The promoter undertakes not to allocate Bank funds to project components that require a full EIA until the EIA and the necessary appropriate assessment, if required, have been finalised and approved by the relevant competent authority. Once any EIA is finalised, the promoter will provide the Bank with an electronic copy of the EIA, for publication on the EIB website.
- The Promoter undertakes to provide to the Bank, if requested, any decisions issued by the competent authority that screen out project component and the main reasons for not requiring EIA with the reference to the relevant criteria listed in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Under these conditions, the operation is acceptable to the Bank’s financing in Environmental and Social terms.