

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	ERSTE GREEN HOUSING MBIL
Project Number:	20200327
Country:	Austria
Project Description:	The proposed Multi Beneficiary Intermediated Loan (MBIL) to Erste Bank der Oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG will be dedicated to the financing of (i) the construction of new residential buildings beyond the minimum applicable Energy Efficiency standards in Austria, and (ii) refurbishments of existing buildings up to current energy efficiency standards.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

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

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project relates to the energy efficient refurbishment of several residential buildings and the development of several buildings (NZEB) in Austria.

The Promoter has previous experience in financing the renovation and construction of similar buildings.

Overall, the project is expected to have positive environmental and social impacts. The main negative impacts are related to construction works which may lead to increased noise, increased traffic or/and disruptions in traffic and vibration levels, and may impact groundwater and air quality. Adequate mitigation measures will be implemented together with the enforcement of good construction practices. The project's impact at construction stage will be temporary and reversible, at a level which is deemed acceptable.

Based on the aggregate amounts and the promoter's pipeline, it can be estimated ex-ante that the operation will result in energy savings of approximately 22,850 MWh per year, corresponding to 3,268 ton/y CO₂ savings.

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, 23.09.2020

Austria, as an EU Member State, has harmonised its environmental legislation with the relevant EU Directives: EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU, SEA Directive 2001/42/EC and Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Birds Directive 2009/147/EC. In the case of the transposition of the Energy Performance Building Directive (2018/844/EU), the definition of NZEB buildings has been transposed, Austria-wide, through the “OIB Richtlinie 6” (OIB guideline 6). OIB guidelines describe a national framework for the implementation in each federal state of Austria.

However, the project does not require an EIA, as it does not fall under Annex II of EIA directive 2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU and will comply with the Energy Performance Building Directive as transposed by the Austrian legislation

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The public consultation process is embedded in the municipal urban planning process and thus subject to public scrutiny. There have been no issues or complaints in that regard.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Given the location, size and nature of the project in a built-up urban area, any negative environmental impacts are expected to be mitigated. The Promoter is deemed to have sound environmental and social capabilities, well proven in the financing of similar buildings. The project will contribute to climate change mitigation by supporting Energy efficiency renovations in buildings and the construction of new high-energy efficient buildings.

The project is therefore considered to be acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective.