

Luxembourg, 5 May 2021

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	ESPOO EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE II
Project Number:	2020-0465
Country:	Finland
Project Description:	The Project finances selected investments from the City of Espoo's investment plan. The Project concerns both new construction and major renovations, including also extension and replacement of existing obsolete facilities. The Project is composed of 22 sub-projects including 9 day-care centres, 9 schools and 3 sports facilities. It also includes one sub-project dedicated for equipment for the schools and day-care centres.
EIA required:	Certain sub-projects could be subject to an EIA. If required by the Competent Authority, the Promoter shall make the Environmental Impact Report available to the EIB.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project comprises the rehabilitation, modernisation and construction of 22 education facilities from pre-primary and primary education to secondary schools as well as some supporting sports facilities in the City of Espoo who is also the Promoter of the Project. Schools and related facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), though the projects might be covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. All the sub-projects are located in an urban area and are fully covered by an approved land use plan, which was subject to a public consultation and approved by the competent authority.

The Promoter confirms that so far all the sub-projects that have received the relevant building permits, no EIA has been requested by the Competent Authority within this process. However, since the building permits for some of the individual projects are still pending, it remains possible that some of them could be screened in. If any of the remaining sub-projects requires an EIA, the Promoter shall make the relevant documentation available to the EIB.

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, 5 May 2021

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

In respect to energy efficiency, the City of Espoo requires all the new buildings to exceed the national building energy efficiency requirements at least by 10%. The exact energy consumption targets are reviewed and decided for each building project individually and will depend on the characteristics of the project. The promoter has confirmed that six of the 22 sub-projects will exceed the national building energy efficiency requirements by 20%, that also makes them eligible for the Bank's Climate Action targets.

The same applies for the renovation projects to the extent possible taking into account the constraints such as respecting the historical value of the building etc. The Project is expected to bring at least 1000 MWh annual savings in the energy consumption. The Promoter has advised that they have decided to purchase all their electrical and heating energy serving the sub-projects from CO₂ emission free sources, so no savings in CO₂ emissions are expected to be realised as a result of this Project.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the Project concerns construction and refurbishment works in an urban area within or close to the existing facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. Positive social and environmental outcomes are expected as a result of the Project especially in respect to an improved energy efficiency of the building estate and for a safer and healthier learning environment for pupils.

The Promoter shall provide to the EIB the Energy Performance Certificates of the sub-projects at completion of the Project and undertakes to include the sub-projects as part of their energy management system and report on the real energy consumption of the sub-projects. In case an EIA is requested by the competent Authority, the Promoter shall make the Environmental Impact Assessment Report available to the EIB.

In light of the above, the Project is considered acceptable for EIB financing.