

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	TRAMTRAINS KARLSRUHE
Project Number:	2019-0624
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	Acquisition of tramtrain rolling stock by Verkehrsbetriebe Karlsruhe.
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	No
(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")	

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The project consists of the acquisition of 73 new electric tram vehicles running on the Karlsruhe tram network, which is owned and operated by the Verkehrsbetriebe Karlsruhe GmbH (VBK).

The 73 new low floor trams have increased comfort requirements to replace the life expired GT 6-70/N and GT 8-70/N Tram units that were produced by DUEWAG / Siemens, ADtranz.

The fleet renewal falls in line with the Local transport plan of the Public Transport Authority of the Karlsruhe region (Nahverkehrsplan Karlsruher Verkehrsverbund) issued in 2014. This document acknowledges that investing in rail public transport will help in modal shift from cars to tram and reduce the currently high levels of air pollution.

The manufacturing of rolling stock (Light rail vehicles) does not fall under Annex I or Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2014/52/EU (amending Directive 2011/92/EC). The existing depot will be used to maintain the new vehicles. Therefore, no EIA will be required for this project.

The rolling stock owned by the Promoter, which are taken out of service in connection with this project will either be deployed for other urban public transport service, or will be sold for service elsewhere or for scrapping in accordance with the regulations<sup>2</sup> by certified companies.

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

<sup>2</sup> Applicable EU and national regulations.

Luxembourg, 7 September 2022

Overall, the project is expected to have a positive environmental impact. The renewal and improvement of public transport will contribute to low-carbon transport and will allow an increase in energy efficiency. Without the investment in new vehicles, the level of service will have to be reduced as the existing vehicles will have reached the end of their physical life, which will result in a shift away from public transport towards other modes which have a higher environmental impact such as the private car. The investments will also improve the quality of public transport services in the city of Karlsruhe and 10 other municipalities, helping thus to reduce reliance on private cars and maintain or increase public transport share.

Given the nature of the project and the distance from the existing alignment, no impacts on Natura 2000 or other protected sites are expected.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is expected to have a positive environmental impact (maintaining modal split as the existing fleet will be unable to maintain the current level of service). Without the project, individual car use would increase therefore increasing emissions and energy consumption. The project contributes to maintaining the low-carbon transport mode as an attractive mode and the quality of public transport services in the city of Karlsruhe and 10 other municipalities, helping thus to reduce reliance on private cars and retain or increase public transport share.

The Promoter undertakes to dispose of or decommission the old trams to be replaced in accordance with EU and national regulations and industry best practice, and will inform the Bank on how these trams are being disposed of in its annual progress reports.

Subject to this condition being met, the project is acceptable for EIB financing from an environmental and social perspective.