



Luxembourg, - 8 December 2022

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: Turku Education Infrastructure  
 Project Number: 2021-0766  
 Country: Finland  
 Project Description: The Project comprises new construction and major renovations of the education infrastructure of the City of Turku, the sixth largest city in Finland. The sub-projects are located in different parts of the city and accommodate different levels of education from pre-primary and primary education to secondary and adult-learning including some supporting, sporting and cultural facilities.

EIA required: May be - multiple investment scheme

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 comprises new construction and major renovation of schools, sports and cultural facilities.

Schools and related facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU though may fall under Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. For the latter case, this means that the decision as to whether an EIA is required is left with the competent authority on the basis of the criteria defined in Annex III of the Directive. To date, some of the project components have been screened out by the Competent Authority.

The Promoter confirmed that the project components would be developed on urban sites within an approved land use plan. None of the Project components are expected to be located within or in the vicinity of Natura 2000 sites.

The Promoter has confirmed that the energy performance of all new buildings will be at minimum 10% better than the current national NZEB<sup>2</sup> baseline. All the components will receive a 3 star or better classification in the RTS certification, a Finnish green building certification similar to the international programmes, such as LEED, EDGE, etc., but taking into consideration the Nordic conditions. The set of criteria used in the RTS environmental

<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> Nearly zero energy buildings



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classification is applicable to new construction and comprehensive renovation projects, as well as to changes of usage.

Overall, the Project is expected to achieve a reduction in the current energy consumption for renovated buildings, thus contributing to energy efficiency. The energy performance of the new buildings will exceed the national regulation requirements thus limiting GHG emissions. Moreover, measures to address the climate change risks will be implemented thus increasing the project's climate resilience.

The Project is thus considered to be consistent with the Paris Agreement pathways towards low-carbon and climate-resilient development, and is aligned with the policies set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025.

### **Social Assessment**

The Project will accelerate the modernisation of teaching and learning environments in terms of functionality, energy efficiency, quality and safety, thereby improving the provision of early childhood education and basic education as well as contributing to improved public health. High-quality education and care provision benefits the society and the broader economy, mainly in terms of skills development but also in terms of other positive social outcomes such as increased participation of women in the labour force, improved social cohesion and engagement, among others.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Positive social and environmental outcomes are expected as a result of the Project by means of constructing and/or renovating buildings with high energy efficiency and providing a safer and healthier environment for students and school staff.

All project components will be subject to the Promoter's compliance with the following requirements:

- Upon completion the Promoter shall send copies of (i) the Energy Performance Certificates, and (ii) the commissioning tests for air tightness and thermal integrity for the new buildings exceeding 5 000m<sup>2</sup>, to the EIB.
- The Promoter undertakes not to allocate Bank funds to project schemes that require an EIA report until the EIA process has been finalised and approved by the relevant Competent Authority. Once any EIA report is available, the Promoter will provide the Bank with an electronic copy of the EIA report, for publication on the EIB website.
- The Promoter undertakes to provide to the Bank, if requested, any decision of the Competent Authority that screens out project components from the requirement of an EIA report.

Under these conditions, the operation is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.