

Luxembourg, 25 April 2023

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	Atea Data Centre and Digital Transformation
Project Number:	2022-0746
Country:	Denmark, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania, Finland
Project Description:	The project concerns (i) the capacity expansion of existing data centres located in Sweden, Denmark, Finland as well as the Baltic states, (ii) the modernisation and harmonisation of the global company IT platforms and (iii) the investments to increase the efficiency and service offered by the new logistics centre in Sweden. These investments will increase the capacity and efficiency of the company in order to improve the IT service delivery to the mostly public customers.
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 investment programme refers to a mixture of software development expenses and capital investments carried out by the different business units. The majority of these investments are done in already existing facilities such as the recently built logistics centre. The data centre investments comprise capital investment for the construction of one new server room at an existing data centre site in Lithuania and recurrent investments into new servers. The site is located in a business area, and it is already prepared for future growth.

The majority of the project activities do not fall under the Annexes of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU amended by the EU Directive 2014/52/EU. The data centre extension will require a construction permit and it is expected that some environmental assessment will be needed, but not a full EIA. The current plan is to build this extension within the existing site, therefore the need for an extensive environmental study is not expected. Once all relevant authorisations and permits will become available, the promoter will be required to send them to the Bank including the full EIA report, if such is required by the competent authorities.

The data centres themselves are located in the north of Europe, therefore they can make best possible use of ambient air-cooling measures in order to increase the overall power efficiency. This efficiency is reflected in a low Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) indicator in the range of 1.2 – 1.4. Such efficiencies are good compared to similarly sized data centres. In addition, the power supply in these countries is mainly secured through renewable energy sources limiting the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions further.

<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.



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In 2019, a new logistics centre in Växjö / Sweden started its operation. The warehouse is rather large, and it has a capacity to serve 19% of the Nordic and Baltic hardware market. This warehouse is at the same time also used as a core component of the promoter's circular business services. Currently a 30% collection and a 60% reuse rate is achieved from devices such as laptops, smartphones and tablets. These collected items will be either prepared for a second life or properly recycled. This service has saved about 49 kt of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2021.

The promoter has a very well-developed environmental and social policy, which is reflected in two separate reports, the sustainability report, and the carbon footprint accounting. The reporting is done according to UN Global Compact / GRI. The sustainability of the own business is also of high priority for the promoter, and it has joined forces with several larger Nordic companies to drive sustainability in the IT industry by better transparency, responsible reporting on minerals and circular electronic partnerships among other things. Finally, the company has also a very wide number of certifications such as ISO 14001 / ISO 27001 / ISO 37001.

### **EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework**

The promoter is in scope but screened out of the PATH framework as it does not operate in a high emitting sector, it is not considered as a highly vulnerable counterpart and it is not engaged in any incompatible activities.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The company actively works to prevent discrimination at the workplace. As stipulated in the Swedish Anti-Discrimination Act, the company adheres to a policy that forbids discrimination against any employee.

The promoter has clear policies and measures in place to promote gender equality and to increase the number of women employees at all levels of the company. Specific recruitment, retention and career advancement measures include targets for gender diversity in recruitment, anonymised resume screening and training opportunities to promote inclusive leadership. In 2021, women represented 40% of Board members, 29% of managers and 25% of the overall workforce, up from 23% in 2020.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The project itself is profiting from existing infrastructures for the project implementation and particularly for the operational phase (logistics centre, existing data centres). Only limited constructions are planned. The company is also very advanced in its corporate social standards including a strong gender policy.

In case an EIA is requested for any of the sub-projects included in the project, the Promoter shall make the full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) / and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) available to the EIB. The Bank will also request a copy of the construction permit for each new data centre construction.

Considering the above, the project is acceptable for the Bank's financing in environmental and social terms.