

Luxembourg, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	RIGA DISTRICT HEATING
Project Number:	2024-0344
Country:	Latvia
Project Description:	Financing of a four-year investment programme concerning the rehabilitation of the district heating network in Riga city.
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

The project will support the promoter’s investment programme for the rehabilitation of its existing district heating network in the City of Riga, to ensure continuity of heat supply and reduce energy losses from the network. The project entails refurbishment and modernisation of existing pipelines and extension of new pipelines.

#### Environmental Assessment

Based on its technical characteristics, the project is considered included in Annex II of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EC as amended by Directive 2014/52/EC). National legislation requires EIA screening decisions for the installation of hot water transmission lines only if their length exceeds 5 kilometres.

Overall, the environmental impacts of the project are expected to be minor and related mainly to noise, vibration, dust, and traffic disruption during the construction. Appropriate mitigation measures are envisaged to minimise the investments’ impacts during construction and operation. Project’s potential positive environmental and social impacts result from advantages of district heating over individual boilers, such as lower costs of heat and lower pollution and GHG emissions, and losses reduction. The project is to be implemented in an urban environment, therefore no impact on biodiversity and protected areas is expected. No schemes are located in the vicinity of a Natura 2000.

The project contributes to improving the share of RES in Latvia’s heating sector and it is in line with Latvia’s National Energy and Climate Plan, which promotes energy efficiency improvements in district heating systems.

The project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered to be aligned both against low carbon and resilience goals against the policies set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap.

The project contributes to Bank’s lending priority objectives on energy (100%) as well as on climate action (also 100%).

<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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The Bank reviewed the environmental and social capacity of the Promoter including its organisation, processes and procedures, and deemed them to be good.

The source of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions for the programme stems from the heat consumption required for new connections to the district heating system. At completion, the programme will lead to a reduction in losses and it will replace more CO<sub>2</sub> intensive sources of heat. The programme will therefore result in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions savings. Absolute emissions of the project are 9.6 kt of CO<sub>2</sub> per year and relative emissions are negative and reach 4.5 kt of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Therefore, the project is not included in the Carbon Footprint Exercise.

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

The counterparty AS RĪGAS SILTUMS is in scope and screened into the PATH framework, because it is considered high emitting. The counterparty already meets the requirements of the EIB PATH framework with its existing alignment plans.

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

Based on the regulatory acts, including the Construction Law, Cabinet of Ministers regulations, and municipal regulations, it is not necessary to conduct public consultations for the projects included in this plan. However, the Promoter disseminates information about planned construction works, heating system outages or hot water supply interruptions by sending information to building managers or residents of directly affected buildings. Information on ongoing and planned heating works is regularly published on the official website and other channels. Cultural heritage is not affected, and thus it is not applicable.

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

The Promoter is certified ISO 50001:2018 – Energy Management Systems, which aims to promote the creation of systems and processes in the company that are necessary to improve energy efficiency and promote the efficient use of energy resources.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Based on the information available, the Project is expected to have minor negative residual impacts and thus is acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective provided the fulfilment of the following undertakings.

The Promoter undertakes not to allocate the Bank's funds to programme components that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA and/or the biodiversity assessment have been finalised, satisfactorily to the Bank, and approved by the competent authority. When the EIA is made available to the public, an electronic copy of the full EIA study shall be sent to the Bank. The Promoter undertakes to take into account and implement conditions expressed in any screening-out decision or EIA consent granted by the competent authority for nature and environment.

The Promoter undertakes to store and keep updated any documents as may be relevant for the project supporting the compliance with the provisions under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives and shall upon request promptly deliver such documents to the Bank. All the biomass sourced as a fuel for the project need to align with the EU biomass sustainability criteria principles as defined in the Directive EU 2018/2001 (Article 29) and with the EU Timber Regulation (EU/995/2010). Wood supply chain and the underlying forest management practices are to be certified, or if not yet certified, they have to be aligned with the standards so as to be certifiable by internationally accredited certification schemes (e.g. FSC or PEFC)