

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	AALTO UNIVERSITY PREMISES
Project Number:	2012-0421
Country:	Finland
Project Description:	The project consists of a new building and renovation of existing university buildings on the Otaniemi campus of the Aalto University in Espoo, Finland.
EIA required:	NO
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	NO

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

The project sites are all situated in existing campus areas and are already within respective city plans. All sub-projects have been screened out by local authorities, and therefore an EIA is not needed. Some of the buildings foreseen for renovation are listed buildings. The promoter has developed relevant design solutions in close cooperation with the relevant authorities. However, due to the fact that the appearance of these buildings cannot be significantly changed, hinders the promoter to develop the most efficient configurations in line with today's requirements. The promoter is very concerned about energy savings and efficiency; all possible measures are taken in order to achieve the targets set. A road map for measuring, monitoring and adjusting energy consumption has been prepared in cooperation with the respective universities. The centre of the campus area will be closed for car and bus traffic. Buses will be rerouted around the campus and metro will be the main connection to the campus. Overall environmental and social assessment is acceptable (B), with possible minor negative residual impacts.

Environmental and Social Assessment

New metro connection

The new ARTS building will be connected to the Aalto University Station. The EIA for the metro line was carried out in December 2005². The required changes of the city plan are in process. Westmetro project is financed by the Bank as a separate project.

CO₂ Emissions and Energy Efficiency of Buildings

According to the Government's Decision in Principle (Policy Objective), from 2015 onwards all the new public buildings will be so called passive houses, i.e. buildings that need little additional heating or cooling.³ EU energy directive (2006/32/EU) sets the energy savings target for Finland at 9 per cent for the period 2008-2016.

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

² http://www.raideyva.fi/tiedott/tiivistelma_suom_low.pdf

³ Government's forecast on climate and energy policies: "Towards low emissions in Finland"; 15 October 2009.

EIA

The Promoter confirms that a full EIA Screening has been performed by the competent local authorities and that no EIA is needed for any of the project components.

Historical buildings

None of the university buildings in Otaniemi are officially listed but the whole campus area is on the list of "Valtakunnallisesti Merkittävät Rakennetut Kulttuuriympäristöt" (Nationally Prominent Built Cultural Environment) which is part of the Act of Land use and Buildings. This means that the town plan and overall features of buildings and outside environments are protected. Additionally AUP has agreed with the Finnish Museum Institute, that all buildings shall be handled as listed buildings. The investment cost dedicated to restoration will be in the range of 16 per cent of the total cost.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise /

Project is not included. The EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies only include emissions from Investment Loans above the methodology thresholds.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The Promoter will ensure compliance with national and European environmental and nature regulations and facilitate the access by the public to environmentally relevant information in accordance with the Bank's Transparency Policy.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

About 15 per cent of the investments are dedicated to energy efficiency and might potentially reduce the energy consumption by up to 20 per cent. Considering the improved energy efficiency thus achievable, the project is also eligible for EIB support under Article 309 of the EC Treaty, point c) Energy Efficiency.