

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: Västerås Municipal Investments  
Project Number: 2014-0039  
Country: Sweden  
Project Description: The project concerns the financing of investment schemes forming part of Municipality of Västerås four year investment programme from 2014-2017.

EIA required: No

This is multi-scheme Framework Loan operation. Some of the schemes may fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive and have to be screened by the Competent Authority. Should any scheme be screened in, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, if applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: no

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

Given the relative small size of the individual schemes and the nature of the sectors concerned, most of the schemes are deemed not to have significant environmental impacts.

In case of investments in reconstruction and/or renovation of public buildings and affordable housing, there are a number of positive effects expected, including energy savings in buildings owned by the municipalities as a result of insulation of walls and roofs, changing of windows and other energy efficiency measures.

The traffic schemes, mainly renovation of streets and improving transport infrastructure as well as expansion of the biking lanes, will reduce travelling times and vehicle operating costs and will in general promote public transport as well as transport by biking.

The reconstruction works are expected to have some minor negative impacts during the construction/implementation period. Once the works are completed it is generally expected that the overall net environmental impact will be positive.

The biggest social impact will be obtained from the affordable housing schemes. The loan will support the construction of some 200 new housing units for rent and the renovation of 500 existing housing units for rent in a city that suffers from a severe housing deficit. The shortage of affordable rental housing is in particular felt by young people. The investments in affordable housing will not completely resolve the housing shortage, but it will alleviate the most urgent needs.

The Municipality's investments in sewerage, water and wastewater treatment, as well as in improved waste management will have an overall positive impact on the environment.

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

Given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning EIA and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities in Västerås, the Framework Loan is acceptable in environmental terms.

The overall net environmental and social impact of the Västerås Municipal Investment operation is positive, with improved environment and in particular social conditions for the inhabitants in the Municipality of Västerås.

Should any scheme be screened in for EIA, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, if applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

## **Environmental and Social Assessment**

The Västerås Municipal Investments programme 2014-2017 results from the Västerås Urban Master Plan 2026, for which an SEA was carried out, consulted and approved by the Competent Authority in 2012.

The improvements of infrastructure included in this programme will cater to the modernisation of the city's basic infrastructure and the improvement in the quality of public services. The plan includes several components - street refurbishment, new biking routes, parks and greeneries, sporting facilities, school upgrading, kindergartens, renovation of housing, the construction of new affordable rental housing, a biogas facility in the wastewater treatment plant, waste collection facilities - to be implemented over the next three years. The investment programme is a coherent and target-based development plan including investments in domains where Västerås, as a local government, has financial and planning responsibility.

Should any scheme included under this Framework Loan require an EIA, it would be subject to the Bank's standard review of the non-technical summary of the EIA. The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including the, EIA, Habitats and Birds Directives and relevant sector directives applicable to the individual schemes. The Promoter shall deliver to the Bank a confirmation or equivalent by the competent authority that the schemes have no significant impact on nature sites of Community Importance or their equivalents, as well as the NTS of EIAs where applicable.

Some of the schemes in the operation fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU and therefore will be subject of screening by the competent authority. Furthermore, should any schemes in the programme have an impact on protected sites, nevertheless the Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the Habitats and Birds Directives.

It is expected that the social impacts of the project will be overall positive. The everyday life for the inhabitants and associated social relations and routines will be improved thanks to improved mobility, improved municipal infrastructure, new and renovated affordable housing, renovated schools, sports facilities and other infrastructure for public services.