

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: Tallinn Urban Infrastructure

Project Number: 20110627

Country: Estonia

Project Description: The project concerns the financing of multi-sectoral investment schemes forming part of the Municipality's four-year investment programme from 2011 to 2014, comprising small to medium sized schemes in the fields of municipal infrastructure (including streets, transport and public open spaces), education and sport, social and health infrastructure, social housing and cultural heritage.

EIA required: This is a multi-scheme Framework Loan operation. Some of the schemes may fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive and may be screened in. The Promoter shall deliver to the Bank the NTS of EIAs, where applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: NO

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

The operation is a multi-sector multi-scheme framework loan that will finance approximately 80 relatively small-sized schemes in the field of municipal infrastructure (including streets, transport and public open spaces), education and sport, social and health infrastructure, social housing and cultural heritage to be implemented in the period 2011-2014. The schemes form a part of Tallinn City's four-year municipal investment programme. It is deemed that the improvements will improve the municipal infrastructure and benefit the inhabitants of the Estonian Capital and beyond. As the City of Tallinn is the economic engine of the entire Estonian economy (51% of the national GDP) the investments will also have national significance. It is estimated that some of the schemes, such as the improvement of the Tallinn Zoo and the construction of sport facilities and schools will benefit citizens of Estonia far beyond the city border.

A large part of the framework loan will address areas where Tallinn need to develop its society in order to meet the goals defined in the context of strategic documents: foremost the Tallinn Development plan for 2006-2021.

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

The road schemes, mainly reconstruction of municipal roads, are expected to have some minor negative impacts during the construction/implementation period. Once the road schemes are completed it is generally expected that the overall net environmental impact will be positive.

Given the nature of the operation and the procedures concerning EIA and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities in Estonia, the Framework Loan is acceptable in environmental terms. The overall net environmental and social impact of the Tallinn Urban Infrastructure operation is positive, with improved environment and in particular social conditions for the inhabitants of Tallinn.

Environmental and Social Assessment

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 SEA, EIA, Habitats and Birds Directives. The Promoter shall verify the compliance of the schemes with the relevant and applicable rules of the European Union legislation, in particular in the fields of environment. The Promoter shall deliver to the Bank a confirmation or equivalent 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 may fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. Furthermore, some of the schemes in the programme may have an impact on protected sites and the Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the Habitats and Birds Directives.

No negative social impacts are foreseen, on the contrary 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, schools and municipal housing.