

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	IP-ONLY FIBRE NETWORK
Project Number:	2016 0900
Country:	SWEDEN
Project Description:	The project concerns the rollout of a fibre based broadband access network in Sweden. The investments comprise the installation of optical fibre cables (Fibre-To-The-Home) and the active equipment to connect an additional 460 000 households and corporates by the end of 2020. A significant part of the investments will be located in rural areas and the broadband services will be provided through an open access model.
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Generally installation works for fixed line broadband networks require the approval by the local competent authorities, which assess the details of the proposed work plans and require adequate mitigation measures, if needed. It is also the strong interest of the promoter to limit any damage during the works in order to keep any reinstatement works or any compensation payments as low as possible. The residual impact will be very limited as the network will be deployed as an underground network.

The implementation process is managed by a specialised unit of the promoter together with local subcontractors. This unit has developed good experience regarding rural rollouts and uses latest tools for cable installations in the fields in order to limit the impact and achieve high efficiency.

The local competent authorities scrutinise during the approval process the rollout plans in many aspects including the risk of crossings with other utility networks but also whether there are environmental issues including archaeological sites. As the existing Swedish databases are very complete, the risk of any wrong installations is limited.

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.

Luxembourg, 16 May 2017

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project does not fall under Annexes I and II of the EU Directive 2011/92/EC as amended and is therefore not subject to mandatory Environmental Impact Assessments.

During the implementation period, there will be a limited temporary impact caused by installation works of new underground duct systems, street side cabinets, cables and in-house cabling. However, all works requires approval by the competent authorities or the house owners which includes the verification of the cable routes regarding environmental and archaeological issues.

Therefore, the project has been classified as acceptable in environmental terms.