

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	TIETO IT PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT
Project Number:	2016-0980
Country:	Finland/Sweden/Czech Republic
Project Description:	The project relates to RDI investments used for the development of new IT solutions specific for different sectors. The new applications aim at the digitalisation and modernisation of companies in the financial, health care, public services, and consumer sectors. In order to provide such solutions as a cloud based offering, the project also includes the extension of the promoter's Finnish/Swedish data centres. The RDI activities itself will be carried out mainly in Finland and partially in Sweden and in the Czech Republic.
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The promoter is a leading IT solutions provider with an extensive infrastructure of own data centres across the Nordic but increasingly also in other European countries. The company has a well-developed and transparent CSR policy including a wide range of different certifications (ISO 14001 (environmental management system), ISO 9001 certifications (quality management), ISO 27001 (information security management systems)). The results on the progress in the CSR policy is annually communicated in accordance with the UN Global Compact requirements.

The RDI investments (carried out within the context of this project) are not directly contributing to emission savings. However, different studies have estimated a significant savings potential. According to the Global eSustainability Initiative Smarter 2030 report, ICT can enable a 20% reduction of global CO₂e (CO₂ equivalent) emissions by 2030. Based on the company's own calculations, the emission avoidance for customers enabled through the use of its digital transaction services reached 228 kt CO₂ in 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.

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The capital investment related to the project will include some data centre refurbishments and extensions resulting also in an increased energy efficiency of these data centres. The majority of these measures will not require construction permit; otherwise the promoter will be required to provide such permissions to the Bank as soon as it becomes available. The works at these sites will not be subject to any EIA as they are placed in appropriate areas.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project activities do not fall under Annexes I and II of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, and are therefore not subject to mandatory Environmental Impact Assessments. The proposed investments concern RDI activities for software and hardware development which will be carried out within existing own or rented office type of facilities already used for similar activities. A limited part of the project cost refers to capital investments for existing data centres.

The promoter applies high standards to its European operations and provides a very detailed annual reporting on its CSR targets and achievements in line with the UN Global Compact standards.

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