

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	SFSB LIMBURG SUSTAINABILITY LOANS FOR CITIZENS
Project Number:	2017-0968
Country:	The Netherlands
Project Description:	The operation is an investment loan extended to the Province of Limburg, in order to co-finance Duurzaam Thuis, a debt fund, established by the Province of Limburg, which will on-lend to homeowners and tenants to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in the residential sector.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

The operation is an investment loan to the Province of Limburg, which manages a debt fund (Duurzaam Thuis) that provides loans to private homeowners and tenants to finance energy efficiency investments in the existing residential sector.

The Fund supports refurbishment activities in the existing residential sector, including three different categories of supported measures, which vary from energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings (Category A), to improved accessibility for disabled persons (Category B) and asbestos removal (Category C). Based on the figures provided by the province, the Bank estimates that 97% of the investments will be energy efficiency and/or renewable energy eligible investments.

The envisaged energy efficiency and renewable energy measures include, but are not limited to, building integrated solar PV and solar thermal, building insulation, new windows, doors, efficient boilers and other buildings' energy efficient internal systems.

In total, the Province of Limburg expects to grant homeowners and tenants a total of EUR 150m in loans, during a five-year period.

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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.

## Environmental Assessment

Given the small scale, location and nature of the underlying projects in built-up areas, all projects are deemed not to have any significant negative environmental impact and are not expected to fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU.

At construction stage, the operation will slightly increase noise and vibration levels, and will perhaps affect air quality. Adequate mitigation measures will be considered together with the enforcement of good construction practices. The operation's impact at construction stage will be short-lived and reversible, at a level which is deemed acceptable.

The removal of asbestos in existing buildings presents some risks to the works involved and for the population living nearby. For this reason, environmental protection measures should be taken in order to protect people from asbestos during the removal and disposal process, which must be done in accordance with the latest version of the Asbestos Removal Decree 2005 (Asbestverwijderingsbesluit 2005).

At operation stage, the operation will make a substantial contribution to increasing the energy production from renewable energy sources and reducing energy consumption thanks to energy efficiency measures, therefore contributing to mitigating climate change.

It is estimated that the energy efficiency and renewable energy investments will generate energy savings of 6.4 GWh per year and energy production from renewable energy sources of 106.5GWh per year.

## Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Concerning the façade renovation works the operation should comply with the existing regulation applicable to buildings regarding cultural heritage/architectural constraints or cultural heritage sites. In addition, one of the envisaged measures of the operation is the installation of biomass boilers for which the feedstock shall be from non-contaminated sustainable sources from inside the EU.

The Province of Limburg should ensure that the existing application request for financing includes a checklist based on which applicants – where applicable – will declare compliance with the above requirements.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The current operation is not expected to have any negative environmental and social impact, and is expected to contribute to a significant reduction in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Province of Limburg has had relevant experience in the above-mentioned activities since 2013, namely with the Stimuleringslening Duurzaamheid (DZL) scheme, which was renamed and converted into the Duurzaam Thuis in 2017. The Province of Limburg shall enhance its data management system in order to be able to report on the loans provided, including details about each one of the supported measures and their impact indicators.

The environmental capacity of the promoter has been assessed by the Bank as acceptable for the scale and nature of the projects.

In view of the above findings, the operation is deemed satisfactory from an environmental and social compliance perspective.