

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: Tampere Central Wastewater Treatment Plant
Project Number: 2017-0862
Country: Finland
Project Description: The project concerns the construction of an underground wastewater treatment plant in Tampere, Finland

EIA required: yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The proposed wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Sulkavuori will replace three wastewater treatment plants in and around Tampere, which were constructed in the 1960s and 1970s and are reaching the end of their useful life. The plant is designed to treat a total volume of 100,000 m³/day or 420,000 p.e., and will comply with the limit values of EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC) and HELCOM recommendations for WWTP's effluent (recommendation 28E/5, HELCOM). The treated effluent will be discharged into the Lake Pyhäjärvi.

The sludge from the treatment process will be digested and dewatered. It will be applied in agriculture after composting. The sludge is expected to be of good quality within the limits for agriculture use. The biogas produced during digestion process will be utilised to produce heat and electricity.

By reducing pollution of the receiving waters from outdated sewage treatment facilities, the project will have a positive impact on the environment. The project includes adaptation measures to account for the effects of climate change and includes energy recovery facilities, thus contributing to the Bank's Climate Action objectives.

The project requires a full EIA according to the Finnish legislation (Act on Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure, 468/1994, environmental legislation in force at the time of the screening). The project also requires a full EIA according to the EU EIA Directive 2014/52/EU (Annex I), amending the 2011/92/EU Directive.

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 Promoter prepared the ESIA and it has already received the approval from the competent authority (Pirkanmaa ELY Centre-Centres for Economic Development Transport and the Environment) on May 29, 2013. The final ESIA report has been provided to the Bank. The project does not affect any Habitats.

The construction includes underground excavation for installation of the WWTP and tunnels for conveying the wastewater from the areas of the former WWTPs that will be decommissioned. There may be some negative impacts during the construction process, but most of these will remain temporary, and with careful implementation management will be reduced or resolved. The necessary measures for avoiding these impacts will be included in the Environmental Permit.

The Promoter is in the process of obtaining the Environmental Permits for the Project from the relevant authority (Regional State Administrative Agencies Western and Inland Finland – AVI).

Social Assessment, where applicable

By reducing pollution of the receiving waters by outdated sewage treatment facilities, the project will contribute to the improvement of living conditions of the inhabitants of the Tampere area.

The project will have an excellent contribution to the employment generation during the construction period.

Effective following of the Environmental Permit will be required to minimise negative social disturbances, inconveniences and impacts during the construction works.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The ESIA procedure was completed in 2013. It followed national regulations, including the public consultation (Act on Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure, 468/1994, section 8a).

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

N/A

Conclusions and Recommendations

By reducing pollution of the receiving waters by outdated sewage treatment facilities, the project will have a positive impact on the environment and contribute to the improvement of living conditions of the inhabitants of the Tampere area.

Taking into consideration the undertakings below, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.

- The Promoter undertakes not to start the works until the environmental permit has been approved by the competent authority. The promoter shall submit to the Bank the Environmental Permit, as soon as it is approved.



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- The Promoter shall ensure that the Project (including all works performed by the contractors) is carried out in accordance with the provisions contained in the ESIA documents and the Environmental Permit.

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