Public Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: Tartu Education and Urban Infrastructure
Project Number: 2018-0163
Country: Estonia
Project Description: A multi-sector municipal framework loan to support eligible investments in the City of Tartu mainly in the areas of education and sports, municipal infrastructure, social infrastructure cultural heritage and urban mobility.

EIA required: This is a multi-scheme Framework Loan operation. Some of the schemes may fall under Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive and have to be screened by the Competent Authority.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise\(^1\): no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment
As a Member State, Estonia is required to follow the relevant EU legislation in relation to the environmental impact of projects (namely SEA, EIA, Habitat/Natura 2000 Directives). In Estonia, the SEA and EIA is legislated for under Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management System Act (as amended), compliant with EU SEA Directive 2001/42/EC and the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU. The Tartu Development Plan 2018-2025 has been the subject of an SEA, which has been published on the EIB website.

The project is expected to comprise small to medium-sized schemes in the fields of education and sports, municipal infrastructure, social and health infrastructure and cultural heritage. All schemes are expected to be located in the urban territory within City of Tartu. There is a Natura 2000 site on the south-eastern outskirts of the city. The indicative list of schemes includes refurbishment and extension of schools on existing sites, which the promoter has confirmed not to be subject to an EIA nor located on Natura 2000 sites. Should any further requirement for an EIA or other environmental assessment including permits for listed buildings arise at the time of allocations during the implementation period promoter will be required to provide the Bank with a copy of the related environmental documents prior the allocation for review and publication where appropriate.

\(^1\) 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.
Social Assessment, where applicable
No separate social impact assessments have been carried out. However, it is generally deemed that the overall social impacts of the Framework Loan operation are positive, achieved by improved quality of a built environment, particularly provision of social and sport infrastructure.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement
The development plan and the related SEA as well as city's budget strategy and annual budgets are all subject to public consultation procedures.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects
Regarding climate action mitigation, the proposed investments upgrading and modernising public buildings will improve their energy efficiency. However, due to their current poor condition only limited savings in the overall energy consumption are expected when the modernised buildings are taken into use. Once the buildings are completed, the promoter shall make the Energy Performance certificates available to the EIB.

Conclusions and Recommendations
The project aims at improving the quality of the education and other municipal infrastructure serving the needs of the pupils and local communities. It is expected that the project will increase the hygienic condition as well as provide the city of Tartu better quality infrastructure including buildings with good energy efficiency standards. The institutional capacity of the promoter to manage the environmental and social issues and the procedures concerning EIA and nature protection put in place by the competent authorities in Tartu are deemed satisfactory.

Given the nature of the operation, promoter capacities and procedures as well as the conditions mentioned above to make the relevant documents related to EIA, other environmental assessment, listed buildings and energy performance available.to the EIB where and when deemed necessary, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.

PJ/SQM/ECSO