

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	<i>Lahti Education Infrastructure</i>
Project Number:	<i>20190251</i>
Country:	<i>Finland</i>
Project Description:	<i>The project comprises new construction and major renovations of the education infrastructure of the City of Lahti, the eighth largest city in Finland. The sub-projects are located in different parts of the city and accommodate different levels of education from pre-primary and primary education to secondary and adult-learning including some supporting facilities.</i>
EIA required:	Certain sub-projects could be subject to an EIA. If required by the competent authority, the Promoter shall make the Environmental Impact Study/Statement (EIS) available to the EIB.
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project comprises the rehabilitation, modernisation and construction of 12 education facilities from pre-primary and primary education to secondary and adult-learning facilities in the City of Lahti who is also the promoter of the project. Schools and related facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), though the projects are covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. All the projects are located in an urban area and are fully covered by an approved land use plan, which can be only set up with a public consultation and the approval of the competent authority.

The Promoter confirms that so far all the sub-projects that have received the relevant building permits and no EIA has been requested by the Competent Authority within this process. However, since the building permits for some of the individual projects are still pending, it remains possible that some of them could be screened in. If any of the remaining sub-projects requires an EIA, the Promoter shall make the relevant documentation available to the EIB.

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Carbon Footprint Exercise, as defined in the EIB Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Luxembourg, 18 March 2020

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

In respect to energy efficiency, the City of Lahti requires the new buildings to exceed the NZEB requirements of the national legislation by 10%. The same applies for the renovation projects to the extent possible taking into account the constraints such as respecting the historical value of the building etc. The project is expected to bring at least 2,190 MWh annual savings in the energy consumption and respectively 400 tonnes of savings in CO₂ emissions when compared to the baseline.

The promoter is deemed to have appropriate environmental and social capacity to conduct the projects of this scope and size including the renovation of a few historical buildings that are part of the project. They target to design all the buildings by following sustainable and resilient methods. The City of Lahti is striving for environmental sustainability in their strategy and has been selected to be the European Green Capital 2021.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the project concerns construction and refurbishment works in an urban area within or close to the existing facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. Positive social and environmental outcomes are expected as a result of the project especially in respect to an improved energy efficiency of the building estate and for a safer and healthier learning environment for pupils.

The promoter shall provide the EIB the Energy Performance Certificates of the sub-projects at completion of the project and will inform the EIB about the development of their energy saving targets for the renovation projects. In case an EIA is requested by the competent authority, the Promoter shall make the Environmental Impact Study/Statement (EIS) available to the EIB.

In light of the above, the project is considered acceptable for EIB financing.