



Luxembourg, 8 June 2023

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	Helsinki Vocational Education Campuses
Project Number:	2022-0042
Country:	Finland
Project Description:	Construction of the new Roihupelto and Myllypuro campuses for the Stadin AO, Helsinki Vocational College and Adult Institute in Helsinki, Finland. The campus development project supports the plans of the college to concentrate its operations onto fewer main sites from currently 14 existing locations.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The Project comprises the construction of two new campuses for the Stadin AO, Helsinki Vocational College and Adult Institute in Roihupelto and Myllypuro, Helsinki, Finland. It also includes the demolition works of several older buildings in the Roihupelto plot. Through the replacement of ageing educational facilities that are not fit for purpose and the construction of new ones that meet high environmental standards, the Project will provide better quality learning and teaching spaces that meet the current safety, accessibility and thermal comfort standards.

Educational facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU, though the Project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. The national legislation does not contain a complete reference to the type of projects falling under Annex II of the Directive and a case-by-case analysis is performed for projects that are likely to have a significant environmental impact. The Promoter has confirmed that both projects are located in areas that are fully covered by approved land use plans which can only be set up with a public consultation and the approval of the competent authority. None of the components is located within Natura 2000 sites and building permits have been issued for both locations.

The new buildings are designed to meet the nearly zero energy building (nZEB) requirements as per the Finnish building energy efficiency regulations. The expected primary energy use will be substantially lower compared to the baseline set by the national energy regulation, through the use of heat recovery ventilation and air-conditioning systems, the extensive coverage of the energy and heating demand by renewable energy sources and the district heating systems, as well as the implementation of a highly insulated building envelope.

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.



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The annual carbon emissions during operation of the facilities are estimated in the range of 615 tn, whereas the annual relative emissions savings using as baseline the emissions of the existing educational facilities are estimated in the range of 1.85 tn. Upon completion, the Promoter shall provide to the Bank a copy of the energy performance certificates and evidence of the commissioning tests for airtightness and thermal integrity.

Furthermore, the Promoter has identified climate change risks and is applying measures to increase the resilience of the buildings and adjacent areas. These climate adaptation measures address localised flooding and heatwave risks by introducing stormwater management systems and techniques that reduce the heat island effect.

The Project is assessed as Paris Agreement aligned towards low-carbon and climate-resilient development and meets the criteria set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025.

### **EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework**

The Borrower is a public sector entity, therefore is in PATH Framework scope. The counterparty is screened out, because it is not operating in a high emitting sector and it is not considered a highly vulnerable entity.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

Both projects are targeting 4 out of 5 stars in the RTS environmental classification tool, which is a certification programme to ensure the developments' environmental sustainability, improve climate change adaptation and mitigate the effects of climate change. The projects integrate circular economy strategies, as the design takes into account the requirement of adaptability and promotes the use of low-carbon building materials and building technologies. For the demolitions, the building systems, equipment and furniture that are in good condition will be delivered for re-use, and the construction and demolition waste will be utilised on site to the extent possible. In the Roihupelto brownfield development, soil remediation works and the removal of materials containing hazardous substances from the existing buildings will result to the protection of the physical environment and the human health.

The Project will enable the implementation of innovative pedagogical and student counselling approaches, which can be expected to result in better skills acquisition and improved productivity of graduates. Moreover, the new campuses will play a pivotal role in the integration of recently arrived migrants into the Finnish labour market.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The construction of the new infrastructure is not expected to generate significant environmental effects and the Promoter possesses the appropriate experience and governance systems to deliver the Project in accordance with the relevant law requirements. Positive impacts are expected by the soil remediation works, the removal of building materials containing hazardous substances from the ageing buildings and the reduction of the operational GHG emissions compared to the existing facilities. The construction impacts of noise, dust and disruption will be managed during the implementation period by the contractors employed for the construction activities.

Overall, the Project will be implemented using high environmental standards as the new buildings are designed to follow many best practices in terms of energy efficiency, climate adaptation, and the use of low-carbon construction materials.

In light of the above, the Project is acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms.