

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	<i>PREŠOV URBAN DEVELOPMENT</i>
Project Number:	<i>2016-0117</i>
Country:	<i>Slovakia</i>
Project Description:	A multi-sector municipal framework loan to support eligible investments in the City of Presov mainly in the areas of public transport, education, recreation, social care, urban regeneration and cultural facilities
EIA required:	Yes: Some of the schemes have been identified as requiring an EIA under Annex II ("screened in") of the EIA Directive
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

As a Member State, Slovakia is required to follow the relevant EU legislation in relation to the environmental impact of projects (namely SEA, EIA, Habitat/Natura 2000 Directives). In Slovakia, the SEA and EIA is legislated for under Act 24/2006 (as amended), which is fully compliant with EU SEA Directive 2001/42/EC and the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended). The Prešov Urban Development Plan 2015-2020 has been the subject of an SEA, which has been submitted for publication on the EIB website.

The investments included in the operation include interventions in the areas of public transport, education, recreation, social care, urban regeneration and cultural facilities. The Promoter has identified a number of the proposed sub projects that will likely require an EIA under Annex II of the EIA Directive (e.g. the extension of the trolley-bus network and municipal waste sorting facility). It has been determined that the great majority of the sub projects will not require an EIA. Should any further requirement for an EIA arise on foot of allocations during the implementation period it shall be a requirement to furnish the Bank with a copy of the related NTS for review and publication or relevant link to the document.

Under the national legislation, all decisions related to EIA and SEA must be referred to the Slovak Environmental Inspectorate under the Ministry of Environment, specifically in this case its district office in Prešov. It is an obligation to publish the EIA, including the NTS, on the web portal www.enviroportal.sk.

There are no Natura 2000 sites within the municipal boundaries of the City where all the schemes will be located. Nevertheless, the Competent Authority has to provide evidence of the compliance with the Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives (Form A/B or equivalent) before the Bank funds are allocated.

Regarding climate action mitigation, the proposed investments entail potential energy savings from the upgrading of public buildings and the expansion of public transport options with more energy efficiency modes (e.g. trolley-bus network). In addition, anti-flooding measures have

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.

been incorporated into the riverside cycle path proposed under the Project along the Torysa River, contributing to climate action adaptation.

Social Assessment, where applicable

No separate social impact assessment has been carried out; however, it is generally deemed that the overall social impacts of the framework loan are positive, with improved quality of life for the inhabitants of Prešov.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The investments proposed under the Project are based upon the strategic priorities set out the Prešov Urban Development Plan 2015-2020, which was, along with the related SEA, subject of a comprehensive public consultation process. Sector specific working groups were organised by the City in order to consider public submissions, which were recorded and incorporated into the Plan as appropriate.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project is a multi-sector, multi-scheme framework loan comprising a programme of investments in public infrastructure (public transport, education, recreation, social care, urban regeneration and cultural facilities) by the City of Prešov, the great majority of which are considered by the City as not requiring an EIA. The small proportion of the investments screened in for an EIA will be the subject of a requirement to furnish the Bank with the related NTS.

In accordance with the national law on environmental assessments (Act 24/2006 as amended), the Prešov Urban Development Plan 2015-2020, upon which the Project is based, has been the subject of an SEA along with the related public consultation requirements.

The Bank has received the relevant information on the procedures for the screening for, and conducting of, EIA and is satisfied that adequate institutional capacities are in place to properly manage the environmental and social impacts arising from the Project.

The overall environmental and social impact of the Project is expected to be positive given the prominence of public transport improvements and the emphasis upon upgrading and restoring existing public amenities, which is considered a sustainable approach to the use of the City's resources. The institutional capacity of the Promoter (Municipality of Presov) to manage the environmental and social issues, and mitigate any of potential minor negative impacts, is deemed good and therefore, subject to the conditions described above, the Project is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.