

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: KUJAWSKO- POMORSKIE HEALTHCARE PROGRAM III
 Project Number: 2015-0207
 Country: Poland
 Project Description: Replacement construction, rehabilitation and equipping of hospital facilities for the Regional General Hospital "Ludwik Rydygier" in Torun, Poland. The project is a continuation of the ongoing EIB support to the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region's Development and Modernisation Investment Programme with the objective to attain the technical standards for hospital operation required by Polish and EU law.

EIA required: no

The requirement of an EIA under directive 2011/92/EU has been screened out by the competent authorities.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project is a continuation of the rehabilitation and extension of the Regional General Hospital "Ludwik Rydygier" on Torun that focuses on the rehabilitation, extension and equipping of the existing public hospital. It also includes the replacement construction for two other outdated hospitals in Torun, the Psychiatric and Infectious Diseases Hospital, and their integration with the Rydygier General Hospital on a single site.

As the project covers works within or close to an existing hospital (Rydygier General Hospital Torun), no significant impact is expected on the environment. The modernisation and replacement of outdated buildings will improve hygiene and safety conditions and will allow the Promoter to apply better statutory and technical conditions. A further positive impact is expected from the construction of energy-efficient new buildings, and the use of more efficient technical installations and materials for rehabilitation whose environmental acceptance has been tested and verified. The project is in line with the national legislation regarding the energy efficiency. The environmental capability of the promoter assessed by the Bank from previous, similar operations is considered satisfactory.

Hospitals are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, though the project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development and to the construction of airfield, as a helicopter landing pad is planned in the scope of the project. The foreseen construction works will be carried out on the existing site within or in close connection with the existing buildings and all the works have already been taken into account in the existing urban development plan of the city of Torun. The competent authority (Kujawsko-Pomorskie Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Bydgoszcz) with its decision dated 24/5/2013 (decision no. WOO.4240.265.20.13.ADS) screened out the requirement of an EIA under the EIA directive because (i) the environmental impacts of the project will be very limited, (ii) these limited potential impacts, including those on the road traffic, have already been sufficiently taken into account in the town plan and (iii) the helicopter landing pad would have very limited traffic, i.e. very few landings and take-offs.

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.

The promoter is competent regarding the environmental issues: the relevant measures (e.g. approved specialist disposal of hazardous medical waste) for project implementation and operation are in place. The environmental capability of the promoter assessed by the Bank from the previous similar operation is considered satisfactory.

The EIA Directive has been incorporated into Polish Law, represented by the Journal of Law 2004, Nr 257 item 2573 with later amendments.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The project aims at the consolidation of health care services delivery in improved hospital facilities. By providing modernized, fit-for-purpose facilities, and centralising services on one campus, the project will have a positive social impact and enable the delivery of better all-round care and support to patients. The centralisation of three hospitals currently located several kilometres apart on a single site will reduce traffic volumes and resulting emissions for staff, patients and suppliers.

Based on the above, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Overall, the rehabilitation and extension of the outdated hospital facilities will improve hygiene and safety. Due to the use of new materials and technologies, the new and modernised buildings will increase the overall energy efficiency. Through a reconfiguration of the existing buildings, and the concentration of services on one site, the project enables the introduction of more cost effective methods for medical treatment and rehabilitation and includes beneficial elements in terms of social cohesion and protection. The competent authority has screened-out the project from the requirement to perform an EIA

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

PJ/ECSO April 2016