

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

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| Project Name: | SORBONNE BUSINESS INCUBATOR BUILDING |
| Project Number: | 2020-0153 |
| Country: | France |
| Project Description: | The project concerns the construction of a building for entrepreneurship and innovation, named "Paris Parc", within one of the campuses of Sorbonne University in the centre of Paris, France. Paris Parc will be a 15°000°m2 flagship building in the heart of Paris that brings together important players of the region's entrepreneurship ecosystem, including an incubator, R&D laboratories, and facilities of the regional technology transfer agency. Paris Parc will also host the French office of the Knowledge and Innovation Community ("KIC") dedicated to Climate Change research, which is a community of research performing organisations belonging to the European Institute of Innovation and Technology ("EIT"). |
| EIA required: | No |
| Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ : | No |

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project comprises the construction, financing, maintenance and operation of a new incubator building within the Pierre and Marie Curie campus of Sorbonne University. The new incubator building will provide additional capacity to support start-ups and spin-off enterprises as well as create an innovation eco-system enabling increased research, development and innovation activity for the university and the region.

Research buildings of this kind 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 competent authority has assessed the proposals and has screened out the development; therefore, an EIA is not required for this project.

The Promoter has designed the new building to have an energy performance in accordance with Réglementation Thermique (RT) 2012, the French standard for nearly zero energy buildings (NZEB). This means that the new and/or renovated buildings include both active and passive design measures in an attempt to reduce their primary energy consumption.

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, 16 December 2020

Further, the project investments will include a connection to the existing district heating system in Paris and will seek to reduce their energy consumption with the installation of best available energy efficient technologies, such as new fenestration and façade systems as well as enhancements to the building fabric including insulation. In addition, the Promoter is seeking to provide other environmental benefits such as the collection, storage and reuse of rainwater for landscape maintenance and attenuating surface run-off into the municipal drainage system as well as the introduction of a green roof and garden. A copy of the energy model or simulation for the new building prior to the first disbursement and on completion a copy of the energy performance certificate will be requested by the EIB.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Project will provide additional flexible and modern laboratories and innovative working spaces and environments, supporting the formation of an innovation eco-system enabling increased research, development and innovation activity, thus increasing the formation of human capital. These additional facilities will assist the university and the region to expand the knowledge-based economy, generating additional employment for high calibre scientists and researchers and strengthen collaborations with commercial and industrial partners promoting wider employment opportunities. Furthermore, the research activity is likely to generate positive outcomes that will benefit the wider society.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project is enabling the expansion of innovative business incubation space in Paris creating a state-of-the-art R&D working environment. The project forms part of a strategic effort to increase and modernise innovation-supporting facilities that will encourage increased R&D activity and further develop the knowledge-based economy. Due to the investment and use of new materials and technologies, the new building will increase the overall energy efficiency within Sorbonne University's estate.

Conditions:

- The Promoter shall provide to the EIB prior to the first disbursement a copy of the energy model report or simulation for the new building.

Undertakings:

- In addition, the Promoter shall provide to the EIB a copy of the energy audit/model report and the Energy Performance Certificate(s) (EPC) on completion of the new building.

In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered to be acceptable for the Bank's financing.