

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	IBERIA COVID-19 HEALTHCARE PROGRAMME LOAN
Project Number:	2020-0150
Country:	Spain and Portugal
Project Description:	This Programme Loan is dedicated to finance investments in the context of the Spanish and Portuguese public authorities' emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as mid-term and long-term investments in public hospitals and other healthcare infrastructure across Spain and Portugal aiming at strengthen the public healthcare systems.
EIA required:	To be confirmed
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The programme loan consists of financing sub-operations related to (i) the emergency response to the COVID-19, including adaptation hospital infrastructure, purchase of medical and non-medical equipment and operational expenditures aiming at reinforcing the healthcare system response capacity and; (ii) medium- and long-term investments, consisting of construction, extension, rehabilitation and equipment of hospitals and other healthcare facilities in Spain and Portugal.

The sub-operations related to the COVID-19 emergency response will mainly concern investments in activities that are expected to be carried out in existing facilities already authorised for the same purpose and therefore, it is not expect that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU will be required for any of the investments.

Regarding those sub-operations consisting of the construction, extension, rehabilitation and equipment of hospitals and other healthcare facilities; hospitals 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 likely to be covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development.

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.

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The Bank's services will review the environmental aspects of each sub-operation and will request for the necessary permits or decisions by the relevant competent authority as required.

In addition, the Bank's services estimates that approximately 15% of the investment costs related to the construction, extension, rehabilitation and equipment of hospitals will be used to finance measures relating to renewable energy and energy efficiency in public buildings and climate adaptation.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The various operations that will be included in this programme loan have not yet been identified. These sub-operations will be subject to separate analyses.

For the sub-operations related to the emergency response to COVID-19 crisis, no Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU is expected to be required.

Those sub-operations consisting of the construction, extension, rehabilitation and equipment of hospitals and other healthcare facilities will be carried out by public promoters. The different project sites will probably be located on existing sites and/or are part of regional plans. Hospitals 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 in the case of urban development, Annex II of the EIA Directive applies. The need for an EIA will be decided by the competent authorities for each sub-project on a case-by-case basis.

With the conditions proposed and the eligibility criteria in place, this programme is considered to be acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental point of view.