



Luxembourg, 15 February 2023

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name: Oxford University Research & Teaching Excellence

Project Number: 2014-0638

Country: United Kingdom

Project Description: The Project concerned the first phase of Oxford University's capital masterplan and investments in four campuses: Old Road Campus, Science Area, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter and the Central Oxford Campus. All four campuses are located in the city of Oxford. More specifically, the Project financed the constructions of the following new facilities: the Oxford Bioescalator (incubator), the Blavatnik School of Government, the Big Data Institute, the Target Data Institute, the Tinbergen Chemistry extension, the Physics Beecroft/Clarendon laboratory building, and the Biochemistry (Hans Krebs 2) laboratory buildings. Furthermore, the Project financed the refurbishment of the Weston Library and the Outpatients building, as well as infrastructure works to support development of the Old Road Campus (Park Hospital site), on which the Bioescalator is built.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

The University of Oxford owns and operates a number of academic buildings as well as student residences. The Project sites are situated in existing campus areas and are already within respective city and regional plans. Council Directive 2011/92/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) does not specifically mention education activities, however if it is an urban development, Annex II of the EIA Directive could apply.

The Target Data Institute, the works on the Old Road Campus infrastructure, the Bioescalator and the Big Data Institute were all covered by the Old Road Campus outline planning permission which was subject to an EIA prior to the EIB's appraisal. The Promoter provided the Bank with the favourable decision and documentation related to the Environmental Impact Report including the Non-Technical Summary.

The Promoter confirmed that for the Blavatnik building the competent authority decided that an EIA Report is not required. All other project components were not subject to the EIA Directive.

Two of the buildings refurbished by the Project, the Outpatients building and the Weston Library are listed buildings. "Listing" is the formal mechanism by which certain buildings are identified as being of particular historic or architectural interest. Listing is not a preservation order, and it does not prevent buildings from being altered, extended or demolished. If a building is listed, it is necessary to obtain "Listed Building Consent" (LBC) before carrying out alteration, extension or demolition. Listed Building Consent was obtained for both of these building projects.

At the time of appraisal, the Promoter's strategy was to target a Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) Excellent level for all new



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buildings projects over GBP 1 m. This strategy was also applied to the Project components financed by this EIB operation, with the exception that for the Biochemistry laboratory building, the Promoter was only able to achieve BREEAM good level. By contrast, both the Target Data Institute and the Big Data Institute exceeded initial expectations by achieving a BREEAM Outstanding level. With these and other measures, the University reduced its carbon emissions by 5% by 2015 and 28% by 2020, from a 2005/6 baseline of 65 980tCO₂.

The University is committed to ensuring that the undergraduate admissions processes identify students with outstanding academic potential and the ability to benefit from an Oxford course whatever their background. In 2012 Oxford spent GBP 7 m on outreach work and a further GBP 8 m on financial support for students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds. More than 68% of the accepted undergraduate students from the UK come from state schools.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the Promoter, that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.