**Public**

# Environmental and Social Data Sheet

## Overview

Project Name: *BARBADOS COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE*

Project Number: *2020-0764*

Country: *Barbados*

Project Description: *Loan to finance a range of health sector interventions to support the national emergency preparedness and response to COVID-19 in Barbados.*

EIA required:                                                no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise[1]:           no

## Environmental and Social Assessment

### Environmental Assessment

The project consists of financing investments of the Ministry of Health and Wellness of Barbados, aimed at implementing the measures to respond to the COVID-19 health emergency and improve the future pandemic preparedness of the Country.

The project focuses on financing the needs of the healthcare system during the period whilst the Country and the WHO maintain the pandemic or health emergency status for COVID-19. These include supplies of medicines, consumables, laboratory equipment and reagents, set up of dedicated facilities for testing, quarantine zones and isolation case management, payment for support services, reconfiguration of hospital areas and of logistics and warehousing spaces.

Due to the type and characteristics, such investments do not fall under the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending EU Directive 2011/92/EU, if located in the EU.

Due to the nature of the investments (in particular purchase of equipment, devices, medicines, consumables, reagents, with infrastructure components represented by smaller facilities reconfiguration works in existing buildings or set up of temporary and modular facilities) and if properly managed (proper decommissioning / disposal of materials), it is unlikely that the project will have significant negative impact on the environment. The investment components specifically relate to the COVID-19 emergency response and future preparedness, and they will mainly concern operational expenses and installation of equipment in facilities and areas already authorised for the purpose. With the allocation of the funds, the Bank's services will ensure that no components will be included that would require a full EIA if located in the EU.

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[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.

**Social Assessment, where applicable**

By financing the shortages in the healthcare services during the period of the pandemic, the project ensures the medical treatment of the affected population while reducing the negative impacts on the society.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The project consists of financing investments of the Ministry of Health and Wellness of Barbados, aimed at implementing the measures to respond to the COVID-19 health emergency and improve the future pandemic preparedness of the country. Such measures are part of the overall response effort put in place by the Barbados Government to fight and contain the COVID-19 outbreak and its medical and socio-economic consequences. The investment will mainly cover both operational expenditures for consumables and medicines, as well as capital costs related to medical equipment and health facilities set up and reconfiguration. In consideration of the fact that the project shall cover the entire population of the country, the EIB expects the investment will have a positive social impact. With the undertakings proposed, the project is considered to be acceptable for the Bank's financing from an environmental and social point of view.

Undertakings:

- the promoter undertakes to inform the Bank's services about any significant environmental and social  issue that might emerge in relation to any health infrastructure schemes included in the project

- the promoter undertakes to ensure that the implementation of the project components will be done in accordance with the Bank's environmental and social policy and standards