

Luxembourg, 18 July 2024

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	HUS HEALTHCARE INVESTMENTS IV
Project Number:	20220091
Country:	Finland
Project Description:	The project supports the defined investment programme in 2021-2026 of the Wellbeing Joint Authority for Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS) including construction and renovation of hospital and health care buildings in the Uusimaa region in southern Finland.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

The project concerns the replacement of an existing hospital building on the Meilahti site of the University Hospital in Helsinki with a new building as well as the extension and rehabilitation of several other hospital facilities on the same site as well as in Espoo (Jorvi Hospital) and Vantaa (Peijas Hospital). Hospitals are not specifically listed in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), though the project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. The foreseen construction works will all be carried out in an area that is covered by an existing urban development plan and all relevant building permits were issued without requesting an EIA.

The new and rehabilitated buildings comply with the local normative regarding the Energy Performance of buildings and therefore the project is in line with the Paris Agreement. In addition, the energy consumption of the rehabilitated buildings will be reduced by more than 30% and the new buildings will fulfil the first two substantial contribution criteria of the delegated act in respect to the EU Taxonomy for the construction sector (performance less than 10% of NZEB, air-tightness test and thermal integrity or quality control). According to the 2022 Guidance Note on the Eligibility of Projects and Investments, the project partly qualifies under the Bank's cross-sector eligibility "Climate Action, Mitigation - Energy Efficiency".

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the project covers construction works within or close to the existing care facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. Overall, the new and rehabilitated buildings will improve care conditions and will allow the patients to live in facilities better adapted to their individual needs. By providing a better configuration of the buildings, the project will enable the introduction of better and more cost-effective methods for care and will include beneficial elements in terms of social cohesion and protection.

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

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.