

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	SINT JANS SUSTAINABLE HEALTHCARE
Project Number:	2021-0811
Country:	The Netherlands
Project Description:	Financing the construction of a new, sustainable and efficient hospital in Weert (the Netherlands), replacing an outdated and larger facility. The new hospital shall enable Sint Jans Gasthuis to continue its role as a general hospital, providing acute care and fulfilling a regional function for oncology and care for elderly, in a largely rural area with a relatively aged population.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

The project supports the replacement of several existing but outdated hospital buildings on the site of the hospital in Weert with a new facility that will be delivered in two phases (from 2022 to 2026 and from 2028 to 2031). Hospitals are not specifically classified by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, though the project is considered classified by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development projects. The scheduled construction works will all be carried out next to the existing site and in an area covered by a valid urban development plan. While receiving the relevant building permit for the first phase, the promoter has confirmed that no EIA has been requested by the Competent Authority. Considering the size, location and extent of the foreseen construction of the second phase, the promoter does not expect that an EIA will be requested for this component where the relevant permits are still pending.

The new building complies with the local requirements regarding the energy performance of buildings and is therefore in line with the Paris Agreement. In addition, the new building fulfils the first two substantial contribution criteria of the delegated act with respect to the EU Taxonomy for the construction sector (primary energy performance more than 10 % lower than the threshold for NZEB, as well as having air-tightness and thermal integrity tests). Therefore, the project is considered to contribute to the climate action targets of the Bank.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the project schedules construction works close to the existing hospital in an urban area, no significant environmental impact is expected. Overall, replacing the outdated building will improve hygiene and safety conditions and allow the promoter to apply better stringent statutory and technical conditions. Due to the use of new materials and technologies, the new buildings will increase the overall energy efficiency of the healthcare provider.

The Finance Contract will include an undertaking that the promoter should provide the EIB with the EIA in case the full Environmental Impact Assessment is requested for the second phase.

In light of the above, the project is considered acceptable in environmental and social terms for EIB financing.