



Luxembourg, 19/09/2022

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	<i>UKRAINE SOLIDARITY PACKAGE - THE CZECH REPUBLIC</i>
Project Number:	<i>20220544</i>
Country:	<i>Czech Republic</i>
Project Description:	<i>Supporting the Czech Government's Strategy on the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis through financing urgent expenses related to Ukrainian refugees in the country, in particular in the areas of health care, education and others.</i>
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	No

### Environmental and Social Assessment

This Framework Loan Operation has been initiated in the context of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, which triggered the biggest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II, and has been prepared under the Global Authorisation of the EIB Programme Loan "Ukraine Solidarity Package – Programme EU MS" which was approved by the EIB in May 2022<sup>2</sup>).

There are almost 400 thousand Ukrainian refugees registered in the Czech Republic as of the beginning of July 2022. The internationally displaced person (refugees) registered in the Czech Republic obtain temporary protection from the Czech State providing them national health insurance, access to education, housing and other public services.

This Operation aims at supporting the implementation of the Czech Republic's Government Strategy on the Ukrainian refugee crisis. In particular, it will finance urgent expenditures to support refugees in the areas of health care and education. In line with the Global Authorisation of the "Ukraine Solidarity Package – Programme EU MS" the operational expenditures are considered exceptionally and temporarily eligible (between 24 February and 31 December 2022). The Operation will enable the service providers to adequately respond to the needs of refugees and host communities, primarily in selected areas of health care and education, by expanding its services and infrastructure.

### Environmental Assessment

The Operation involves investments in urgent expenditures (mainly OPEX) in health care, education and others. Its impact on climate and environmental sustainability is deemed negligible and it is expected that the schemes to be financed will fall outside the scope of the

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

<sup>2</sup> [Summary of the Operation](#) and its [Environmental and Social Data Sheet](#)



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EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (EIA Directive).

### **Social Assessment, where applicable**

The Operation supports the achievement of a number of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (Good Health and Wellbeing; Quality Education; Gender Equality; Decent Work and Economic Growth; Reduced Inequalities). It will support the implementation of the Czech Republic's Government Strategy on the Ukrainian refugee crisis, adopted in April 2022, as well as a set of emergency legislation (Lex Ukraine: Acts no. 65-67/2022 Col.), which respond to the current emerging situation by defining critical priorities for mitigating impacts of the wave of refugees on the economic and social infrastructure and services in the country. In particular, it will expand the capacity of the current Healthcare and Education sectors and will benefit both national population and refugees by reducing congestion and providing a better level of service. The Czech Government Strategy follows the Temporary Protection Directive (2001/55/EC), which gives beneficiaries the right to access housing, employment, social welfare, medical care, education and access to the asylum procedure.

The Operation contributes to EU Gender Equality and it will bring benefits particularly to women, children and vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities and older persons) as men aged 18-60 are not allowed, in principle, to leave Ukraine. The operation will focus on the provision of services to address the needs of these groups, and the measures supported are expected to have a positive contribution in the wellbeing and social inclusion of refugees and host communities. As a result, in line with the EIB criteria on the share of expenditures meeting women's specific needs, the Operation complies with a Significant Gender Tag.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

The Operation will be implemented by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with the relevant sector bodies in charge of health care and education (General Health Insurance Company and Ministry of Education respectively). The Promoter's capacity regarding Environmental, Social and Climate management, governance and monitoring systems has been verified during the implementation of numerous previous projects supported by the Bank and is deemed good.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Overall, the Operation's net environmental and social impact is expected to be positive and it should bring about important social benefits to the refugees and hosting communities.

Therefore, the Operation is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.