



Luxembourg, 15/11/2022

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	<i>MINERVAX (IDFF)</i>
Project Number:	<i>20220025</i>
Country:	<i>Denmark</i>
Project Description:	The project aims at financing research and development activities supporting the development of a prophylactic vaccine against Group B Streptococcus (GBS).
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns investments in research and development activities, carried out by the Promoter and its partners in existing facilities without changing their already authorised scope. The project does not fall under the scope of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU.

The Promoter maintains adequate internal procedures and management practices that are in line with best industry standards and are subjected to audits. The project will be carried out according to state-of-the-art technology and will take into consideration environmentally friendly, low energy- and resource-consuming technologies.

The project is considered to be aligned with the Paris Agreement, as defined in the EIB Climate Bank Roadmap.

The Promoter is in scope but screened out of the PATH framework as it does not operate in a high emitting sector and is not considered as a highly vulnerable counterpart.

Social Assessment

The project has a positive impact on gender equality as it provides potential solutions for the prevention of infections due to Group B Streptococcus (GBS) in pregnancy, which may lead to adverse pregnancy outcomes, including stillbirths. As such, a GBS vaccine would protect pregnant women against adverse pregnancy outcomes (abortions, stillbirths), neonatal/ infant infection, disability and maternal infection. A GBS maternal vaccine would fill an unmet global public health need, as also recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO), which

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.



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identified the development of GBS vaccines suitable for maternal immunization in pregnancy as a priority².

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

If successful, the project is expected to lead to important social benefits, considering the targeted indications and the level of unmet medical need.

Through the R&D activities and investments, the Promoter is also expected to sustain its current level of skilled personnel, while contributing to European scientific innovation, hence fostering and nurturing the vital research community.

The Promoter is committed to animal welfare and the responsible use of animals for scientific purposes. Moreover, the Promoter complies with the European Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes, where applicable.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project's activities are not covered by the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU. The research activities will be executed in existing and already authorised research facilities. The promoter has effective policies and operating procedures in place, which are in line with industry standards.

The project concerns investments in research and development for which no significant impact on the environment is expected. By providing potential solutions for the prevention of GBS infections in pregnancy, the project is expected to have a positive impact on gender equality.

Considering the above, the project is considered acceptable for Bank financing in environmental and social terms.

² Group B streptococcus Full Value of Vaccine Assessment, WHO, 2021.