

Luxembourg, 2 June 2023

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION 2
Project Number:	2022-0552
Country:	Greece
Project Description:	<p>The Project supports basic research funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI), a national independent public agency set up in 2016 to fund the best researchers in the country in view of improving Greece's R&D performance and the competitiveness of the Greek economy, and reducing brain drain.</p> <p>The Project will co-finance research activities and costs of R&D equipment, as procured by HFRI through competitive calls, between 2023 and 2027.</p>
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Project concerns public research to be carried out in existing facilities, already authorised for the same purpose and not expecting to materially change current R&D practices at these institutions. The activities of the project create intangible assets: new knowledge and scientific discoveries. The Project does not fall under the scope of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Some of the financed R&D activities may involve the use of animals for scientific purposes. The Promoter has confirmed that the beneficiaries comply with all relevant legal provisions, notably Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes transposed to the relevant Greek legislation.

The Project has the potential to increase innovation capacity of Greece, enhancing its competitiveness and economic growth. The Project is expected to generate positive externalities in the form of an increase in the number of researchers trained, an increase in the publication activity of Greek public higher education institutions and research centres, job opportunities for young researchers to avoid brain drain, and – through its focus on excellence - an improvement of the quality of scientific research in Greece. Consequently, the Project is expected to yield excellent returns to the society.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project concerns investments in public research and development to be carried out 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.



Luxembourg, 2 June 2023

The Project finances investments in intangible assets, i.e. basic research activities that are not expected to have significant negative impact on the environment. Instead, some of the research activities are expected to provide some positive social and environmental benefits.

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