



Luxembourg, 22 June 2023

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: BURGAS SPECIALIZED CHILDRENS HOSPITAL
 Project Number: 20220481
 Country: Bulgaria
 Project Description: The project consists of the construction and equipment of the Burgas Children Hospital that will be located in the Municipality of Burgas and will cover the medical needs of children from the whole southeast region.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project consists of the construction and equipment of the new Burgas Children Hospital (BCH) in the city of Burgas (Bulgaria). The new BCH will be a university specialised hospital with 123 beds (with an additional 10 beds in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit) and 19 medical-surgery specialities (e.g., Cardiology, Paediatric Surgery or Emergency care).

Hospitals and related facilities 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 considered covered by Point 10(b) Urban development project of Annex II of the Directive.

According to the promoter, Bulgarian legislation (Environmental Protection Act (promulgated SG 91/25 September 2002, amended SG. 21/12 March 2021 and the Ordinance on the terms and procedure for carrying out an EIA)), does not mention hospitals and other healthcare infrastructure among the projects that require and Environmental Impact Assessment procedure, so an EIA procedure is not required. This situation has been confirmed by the *Regional Inspectorate for Environment and Water (Ministry of Environment and Water)*, who answered the promoter's query on 30/09/2020, stating that the outlined activity is not subject to environmental procedures according to the Environmental Protection Act. This document has been provided to the Bank.

The new hospital will be designed and built according to Bulgarian nearly-zero energy buildings (NZEB) standards (as per the national Energy Efficiency Act), and is as well expected to exceed those requirements.

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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With regard to climate change mitigation the new building includes passive measures which will enable the structure to store by itself thermal energy from the sun, and cool the structure by shielding it from the sun rays. Active solutions such as Led technology, presence detectors, heat recovery, etc. are as well scheduled to reduce energy consumption. Medical equipment will be procured, amongst others, according to energy efficiency and durability/ reparability criteria on circular economy.

The tender document for the Design and Build contract require that the contractor to be awarded performs an "Air tightness test" as part of the building's commissioning.

The Promoter has confirmed that the Project is neither located in a Natura 2000 site, nor in other designated or protected sites.

The Project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered to be aligned both against low carbon and resilience goals.

The counterpart (The Burgas Municipality) is not in scope of the PATH framework.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

During the construction phase, the promoter will implement a number of measures to mitigate the negative impact of the works with respect to the air quality, acoustics, hydrology and hydrogeology, biodiversity, urban landscape and waste production.

During operation the project is considered beneficial in social terms by providing health care to resident population with no discrimination to maintain social cohesion, and to implement occupational health standards for staff.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project consists of the construction and equipment of the new Burgas Children Hospital (BCH) in the city of Burgas (Bulgaria).

The project does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment procedure.

The project aims to improve the delivery of paediatric healthcare services in Burgas and Southeast region of Bulgaria and includes beneficial elements in terms of social cohesion and protection. The promoter has implemented measures to maximize the energy performance and the environmental sustainability of the new infrastructure. As such, the project presents high potential health and social benefits for the society. In light of the above, the project is considered acceptable for financing by the Bank.

Disbursement Condition

Before any disbursement concerning construction costs, the promoter will submit to the Bank the corresponding Building Permit.