

Environmental and Social Data Sheet¹

Overview

Project Name:	TECHEU - UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA
Project Number:	2025-0196
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	The Project concerns the extension of the campus of the University of Silesia in the city centre of Katowice and renovation of their campus in Cieszyn. The Project comprises the construction and renovation of academic and research buildings, as well as the greening of the campus located along the adjacent river.

E&S Risk Categorisation:	Low risk
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	Yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ² :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

The Project supports new constructions and renovations of infrastructure of University of Silesia, located in Katowice and in Cieszyn, Poland.

Environmental Assessment

The operation involves a series of integrated investments by the University of Silesia (UoS) to expand and modernize its campus infrastructure in Silesia. It comprises the construction of new academic and research facilities on the US' main campus in Katowice as well as the redevelopment of an existing auditorium in Cieszyn. It includes creation of a "Green Science Zone" by regrouping existing on-street parking spaces in a new multi-level parking garage and converting recovered space in green and pedestrian areas. The Project is part of the region's Just Transition programme, reflecting its strategic importance for the post-coal economic transformation. Overall, the project is expected to have significant positive social and environmental outcomes (improved educational facilities, urban green space and accessibility) with limited adverse impacts, provided that standard mitigation measures are implemented.

¹ The information contained in the document reflects the requirement related to the environmental, social and climate information to be provided to Investment Committee as required by the Invest EU Regulation and it represents the equivalent of the information required in the template of the InvestEU sustainability proofing summary

² 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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Council Directive 2011/92/EU amended by Directive 2014/52/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) does not specifically cover educational activities, leaving it at the discretion of the responsible competent authorities to request an EIA on the basis of the location and scale of the works concerned. However, universities may fall under Annex II of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU with respect to urban development, that defines a threshold above which an EIA is required. The Project's components do not exceed the threshold.

The SPIN-ART component of the Project is located within 4km of a NATURA2000 site (Cieszyńskie Źródła Tufowe PLH240001). Local competent authority ascertained that the investment in question will not pose any identified threats to the conservation objectives, will not directly or indirectly affect the achievement of conservation goals, nor will it impact the implementation of planned conservation measures within the Natura 2000 area, therefore an appropriate assessment is not considered necessary.

The project will include new buildings, which will comply with the 2010/31/EU directive on energy efficiency of buildings.

Climate Assessment

Climate change mitigation:

By constructing new facilities and upgrading existing ones, the project aims to deliver high-quality spaces for research, teaching, and learning, designed in line with current standards for accessibility, safety, and thermal comfort. Selected components will incorporate rainwater retention systems. The net primary energy demand of the new buildings will comply with applicable national requirements for Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB).

The Green Science Zone concept, an initiative of which US is a part of, in particular is directly tied to climate resilience – it aims to restore natural water retention in the urban landscape and reduce heat island effects by expanding green areas.

Paris Alignment of projects:

The Project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered to be aligned both against low carbon and resilience goals, as set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025.

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The counterparty University of Silesia is in scope and screened out the PATH framework, because it is not considered high emitting nor high vulnerability.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Project will provide modernised research and teaching facilities, along with green pedestrian areas created through the reallocation of space previously used for car traffic. This new infrastructure is expected to support the ongoing modernisation of the University's learning and research



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environment, contributing to an overall enhancement in the quality of public higher education delivered by the Promoter.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project concerns renovations and new constructions of buildings within the real estate park of University of Silesia, Poland. The Promoter possesses the appropriate experience and governance systems to deliver the Project in accordance with national and European legislation.

The project is carried out in compliance with applicable national and EU environmental and social legislation. Based on the environmental, climate and social information provided by the Promoter and based on the review of the likely significant environmental, climate and social risks and impacts and the mitigation measures and management systems in place, the project is deemed to have low residual environmental, climate and social risks and impacts. No further sustainability proofing is therefore required.

Environmental and Social Conditions

The Promoter will be required to provide the following information:

- Copies of building permits;
- Evidence of the completed air-tightness test ;
- Either evidence of managing the quality of construction or completion of a thermal integrity test;
- Copies of the energy performance certificate upon completion of works.

Based on the information available and with appropriate conditions and monitoring, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.