

Luxembourg, 10 December 2025

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: SOUTH AFRICA END TO END VACCINE SITE (HDX)
 Project Number: 20240866
 Country: South Africa
 Project Description: The Project supports the construction of a greenfield end-to-end vaccine manufacturing plant, as well as the technology transfer of multiple vaccine assets to the Promoter's current and to-be-built manufacturing facilities.

E&S Risk categorisation Medium

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 involves the construction and operation of a new vaccine manufacturing facility within an existing industrial zone in Cape Town, South Africa. Potential impacts are site-specific, reversible, and manageable with standard mitigation measures. The project is compliant with local environmental regulations, as confirmed by the Western Cape Government and an external consultant. Benchmarking against the EU EIA Directive, the project does not fall under Annex I (mandatory EIA) or trigger Annex II, so no EIA is required under EU law either.

To ensure robust environmental management, the Bank has required independent air quality and noise assessments before civil works begin. These studies will confirm baseline conditions and guide mitigation during construction and operation.

Environmental measures are integrated and streamlined as follows:

- The facility design follows Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) and GMP standards.
- Air, water, and waste management are addressed through closed-loop water reuse, on-site neutralisation of process effluents, and autoclaving of biological waste before licensed off-site disposal.
- Efficient use of water and energy is prioritised, with stormwater reuse planned.
- The facility will connect to municipal utilities and operate under an Environmental Management System (EMS) aligned with ISO 14001.
- With these measures in place, no significant soil, water, or air pollution is expected.
- No significant biodiversity or ecosystem impacts are anticipated, as the site is previously disturbed.

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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- ***Climate change mitigation and adaptation:***

The project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered aligned with both low-carbon and climate resilience goals, in line with the EIB Climate Bank Roadmap. The facility's design prioritises energy and water efficiency, including closed-loop water reuse and efficient process systems, which help minimise greenhouse gas emissions and resource use. The project is not included in the EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise, as estimated emissions are below the reporting threshold. No significant climate risks have been identified.

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The counterparty is in scope and screened out of the Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) framework. Biovac does not operate in a high emitting sector and is not considered as a highly vulnerable counterparty.

Social Assessment, where applicable

Prior to appraisal, informal occupants were identified on the land. The land purchase agreement requires the plot to be delivered free of occupants. While the Promoter is not directly responsible for resettlement, they must ensure any clearance by the city aligns with EIB Standard 6 and co-financier standards—specifically, no forced evictions and adequate compensation.

A Needs Assessment confirmed two adults on site. A Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) was prepared, reviewed, and found adequate; its full implementation is a condition precedent to disbursement.

No specific labour or gender-related risks have been identified.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Although no ESIA was required, the Promoter has committed to a robust Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with EIB Standard 10. Targeted consultations were conducted for the RAP, overseen by the Bank and co-financiers.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The project will generate positive social externalities: improved vaccine access, technical capacity building, and public health outcomes across Africa. The Biovac Learning Academy, supported by EIB technical assistance, will serve as a regional training hub for vaccine manufacturing.

The project supports SDGs 3, 8, 9, and 17, contributing to health, decent work, innovation, and partnerships.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Project is expected to have overall positive impacts, supporting Africa's transition toward health sovereignty and resilient vaccine manufacturing. Its environmental footprint is moderate and manageable within existing legislation and EIB standards. Key mitigation measures—including baseline air quality and noise monitoring, RAP implementation, and robust E&S management—are proportionate to the risks. All are conditions precedent to disbursement.



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Overall, the Project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental, climate, and social terms, given its strong positive externalities for public health, employment, and skills development, and the promoter's proven implementation capacity.