

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	Universität Hamburg
Project Number:	20120619
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	Extension and refurbishment of the university campus in Hamburg to merge several academic institutes in a common facility to boost research on climate change
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

Universities and scientific institutions of this kind are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, though the project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. The actual project concerns the rehabilitation and extension of existing buildings. The foreseen construction works will all be carried out on the existing sites and within or in close connection with the existing buildings. Since the foreseen construction works are fully covered by an approved land use plan, the promoter confirmed in writing that the project does not require an environmental impact assessment as per the national Land Use and Building Act (BauGB or UVPG) that is aligned with the Directive 2011/92/EU.

Overall, the rehabilitation and extension of the outdated laboratories will improve hygiene and safety conditions and will allow the promoter to apply the most stringent statutory and technical conditions. In respect to energy consumption, the rehabilitated building will be designed to higher standards than required by the national legislation while the new construction might be considered as or close to “nearly zero energy buildings”.

The project intends to provide improved facilities for one of the leading scientific institutions doing research on climate change and the impact on the environment. By providing enhanced facilities, the project also includes beneficial elements in terms of acquiring evidence based knowledge about the impacts of climate change. In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered acceptable with minor negative residual impacts.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

As the project covers construction works in an urban area within or close to the existing facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. Besides meeting the space requirements of the university, the project also aims at improving the quality of the urban environment of the quarter. Therefore all buildings will be carefully integrated into a coherent urban design with attractive and open internal and external spaces. Finally, the capacity of feeder and secondary roads as well as access to parking places will be reduced and measures taken to connect the campus with its urban surroundings through improved public transportation and non-motorised traffic.

The underlying master plan for the urban development of the quarter is currently under revision and – in line with the relevant national legislation – requires a formal public consultation.