

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES
 Project Number: 2013-0649
 Country: BELGIUM
 Project Description:

The project consists of the financing of COST activities (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). COST is an intergovernmental research association funded by the European Commission under Horizon 2020 (H2020) to foster cooperation among scientists across Europe by providing a proven knowledge sharing and training platform. COST mainly provides grants to researchers for meetings, short term scientific missions, training, publication and dissemination of research findings. The purpose of the EIB financing is to ensure continuity of COST activities as supported by the Commission's budget. The project will run from May 1, 2014 (effective start date) until June 30, 2021.

EIA required: no
 Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

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

The project is a multi-sector/multi-scheme operation of purely intangible nature. It includes training and networking RDI activities that do not fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. Most of these activities are expected to be carried out in existing facilities already used for the same purpose. Even in the few cases where new constructions will be necessary they will be in already approved/built urban areas, therefore without the need of EIA. No impacts are foreseen on Natura 2000 sites as per Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC or Birds Directive 79/409/EEC.

The project elements must comply with international principles and applicable norms concerning bioethics, animal experimentation, biosecurity, protection of the environment, natural heritage, bio-diversity and data protection. This compliance must be ensured by the beneficiaries of the aid and will be monitored by the promoter. The aid can be revoked in case of non-compliance.

Overall the project is considered acceptable for the Bank's financing with minor negative residual impacts.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Regarding the application of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU to the project, only the expansion or construction of large education and/or RDI facilities could fall under its Annex II as urban development projects, which is not within the purpose of the project.

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100 000 tons CO₂/year absolute (gross) or 20 000 tons CO₂/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.