

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

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| Project Name: | BERLIN FORSCHUNG |
| Project Number: | 20140124 |
| Country: | Germany |
| Project Description: | The purpose of the project is to co-finance the city of Berlin's eligible investments in research performed by academic staff and scientists at 3 universities, 3 universities of applied sciences as well as 13 public non-university research institutes in the period 2014-2015. |
| EIA required: | No |
| Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: | No |

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

The project includes salaries of R&D staff and purchases of R&D equipment. The included R&D activities will be carried out within existing facilities, making use of existing installations. Such activities create intangible assets (new knowledge and scientific discoveries), which do not fall under the Directive 2011/92/EC.

The research done by the different universities and research institutes spans a wide field of different areas and potential environmental issues such as handling of toxic substances and studies with living animals. However the related directives (Seveso; protection of animals) and good principles as well as recommendations such as 3R for experiments with living animals are implemented and externally verified by the competent authorities.

On the other hand, some of the research activities covered by the project relate to subjects concerned with environmental improvements (ecosystems, energy efficiency etc.) and are therefore expected to provide positive environmental effects in several cases.

Overall, the project is considered as acceptable for the Bank's financing, with positive or neutral impacts.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

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Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Some of the laboratories included in the project handle toxic materials and toxic waste as part of their activities. The promoter has indicated that most laboratories do not fall under the Seveso Directive due to the small quantities handled. However one laboratory falls under the Seveso directive and has the related measures implemented. Its compliance is checked by the local competent authorities through regular onsite visits.

Three institutes carry out experiments with living animals. The promoter has confirmed that these institutes comply with all relevant legal provisions; notably Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes; and the German law on animal protection (TierSchutzG) as implemented by the Federal States. In Berlin, the competent authority enforcing the law and controlling compliance is the State office for health and social affairs (*Landesamtes für Gesundheit und Soziales*). In particular, the institutes are highly committed to applying the “3R” principle that consists in replacing animal use by alternative methods when possible, reducing the number of animals used as much as possible and refining the testing methods to reduce animals’ pain and distress. To credibly implement the 3R principle, each institute has an animal protection delegate appointed by the City of Berlin who examines and validates the animal use plans for each individual research project, in line with the EU Directive as implemented in TierSchG. The delegate’s opinions are subject to an ex-post control by the competent authority. The animal protection delegate also chairs an animal protection committee whose mandate consists in making continuous improvements to the enforcement of the 3R principle. Moreover, in 2000, Forschungsverbund approved rules of good scientific practice, which are relevant for all researchers and which are regularly refreshed through trainings.

The social institutes are more and more faced with ethical questions related to the protection of personal data. As this issue has become so important meanwhile it is planned to create a special ethic council which should develop and implement best possible practice.