

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	NRW Hochschulen IV
Project Number:	2014-0763
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	Modernisation, construction and rehabilitation of buildings located at public universities and colleges owned by the Federal State of North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany.
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 construction as well as modernisation and rehabilitation of several buildings for the public universities and university of applied sciences. The project comprises 20 individual sub-projects at 12 different higher-education institutions in 9 cities throughout the region. Six of these subprojects are the construction of new research laboratories, nine projects are covering the rehabilitation and modernisation of existing facilities while a further five project cover the replacement of obsolete buildings with new facilities.

The promoter confirmed that all construction works will be executed on an existing campus or closely linked to the existing university buildings. All projects are fully covered by an approved land use plan which can only be set up with a public consultation and the approval of the competent authority. None of the subprojects require an environmental impact assessment as per the national Land Use and Building Act that is aligned with the Directive 2011/92/EU.

In particular the replacement and rehabilitation of the existing buildings will improve hygiene and safety conditions and will allow the promoter to apply stringent statutory and technical conditions. In respect to energy consumption, the new and rehabilitated buildings will be designed to higher standards than required by the national legislation (30% below the existing ENEV). In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered acceptable with minor negative residual impacts and therefore the project eligible for the Bank's financing.

Environmental and Social 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. The project aims at improving the quality of overall estate, to improve the energy efficiency and to ensure a safe operation of various university buildings.

The replacement and rehabilitation of the existing buildings will improve hygiene and safety conditions and will allow the promoter to apply more stringent statutory and technical conditions. In respect to energy consumption, the new and rehabilitated buildings will be designed to higher standards than required by national legislation (30% below the existing legislation (ENEV)).