Luxembourg, 4 December 2015

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT
Project Number:	2015-0653
Country:	Ireland
Project Description:	The project will consist of the construction of new infrastructure (Health and Innovation facilities, Western Campus Development and additional student accommodation), of the extension of existing academic buildings (Western Gate-building) and of the refurbishment of several existing but out-of-date university facilities (Windle Building Student Hub, Schools of Chemistry and Physics). The acquisition and refurbishment of two existing student residences are also included in the project.
EIA required:	decision waited
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

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

The project covers Universities and Research Facilities of a kind which 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 current project concerns new construction and refurbishment of teaching, research and sport facilities on an existing university campus as well as an increase in the accommodation capacity through the refurbishment and construction of additional student residences. The promoter cannot exclude that an EIA will be requested for any subproject where the relevant permits are not issued yet. The Finance Contract will include an undertaking that the promoter shall make the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) available to the Bank should an Environmental Impact Assessment be requested for any of the project components.

The project will allow the university to reduce its current energy consumption by adopting the best available technologies in terms of thermal insulation and energy management for their building estate. The promoter developed a methodology to ensure that the detailed design considers the use of materials with a low negative environmental impact over the expected lifetime (building, maintenance, demolishing) of the buildings.

Since existing outdated buildings will be replaced by new constructions, the project is acceptable for the Bank's financing minor negative residual impacts.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The Cork University Campus in placed in the centre of Cork, with a number of additional satellite sites, deployed over a built area of about 233 000 $m^{2.}$ The project does not entail listed buildings.

For any work concerning the project, an environmental Report and Natura statement with associated documents will be prepared and lodged with the planning application. Since the scope of the project is below the relevant thresholds, the promoter doesn't expect that an EIA

will be requested by the Competent Authority. Therefore the Finance Contract will include an undertaking that the promoter shall make the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) available to the Bank should an EIA be requested for any of the project components.

It is anticipated that asbestos may be encountered in the existing building. An asbestos survey will be undertaken by a licenced specialist consultant and any asbestos encountered will be removed and disposed by a licenced specialist contractor.

The new construction's design is to achieve a Near Zero Energy Building which requires a 60% reduction in current standards by 2018. The aim is to minimise the energy consumption of the facilities and to produce at least 50% of the remaining energy from biomass. The energy consumption (kWh/m^2) of the campus has dropped by 40% from the peak of 370 kWh/m^2 in 1992/93 to the current value of 230 kWh/m^2. The new buildings are targeting an energy consumption in between 50 and 75 kWh/m^2 per year.

The University revised in 2012 the carbon footprint exercise carried out in 2009. The new University's report show that the normalised carbon footprint component (per m^2 tCO2e) associated with energy consumption in the University has reduced by 15.6% compared to the 2008/09 study. The new building will target a BREEAM "excellent" certification as a minimum standard, contributing to pursue the UCC Carbon Footprint reduction commitment.

Social Aspects

The benefits of the project derive from the increased scope in achieving well-trained undergraduate and postgraduate students, an expanded research capacity with a focus on applicability of results, and a sustainable and value-driven contribution towards economic development. The benefits from the project also include monetary and non-monetary returns accruing to improved skills, higher labour productivity, and income premia leading to increased life-time earnings.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation and stakeholder engagement are integral phase of the processes used for the development of all new building projects. The University of Cork will complete the pre-consultation stage with local stakeholders and authorities for all the project components in order to secure the planning permission minimizing time and additional requirements.
The Promoter ensures compliance with national and European environmental and nature regulations and facilitates the access by the public to environmentally relevant information in accordance with the Bank's Transparency Policy.