

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: HELLENIC UNIVERSITIES I
Project Number: 2015-0746
Country: Greece
Project Description: Reconstruction and new build of facilities for up to nine public universities in Greece

EIA required: yes

One component of the overall project is the construction of a central storage of hazardous laboratory waste in the Zografou Campus of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens. An EIA covering the project was carried out and approved by the competent authorities in 2009. The relevant documents have been published on the EIB website

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Universities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended, though the project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. The actual project concerns primarily the construction but also finalisation of construction, of buildings that will house teaching (classrooms and amphitheatres), laboratory activities and office space, in order to meet the institutions' additional capacity, the new academic requirements in terms of training methods and technological advancements, improve the space allocation of students and staff, and also to replace ageing and obsolete facilities. In addition, out of the 17 selected sub-projects one concerns the construction of student housing facilities and one the construction of a waste storage facility. The project sites are situated in existing campus areas and are already within respective city and/or regional plans. The competent authority has not requested an EIA for any of the projects but for one, and more specifically for the Building for the central storage of hazardous laboratory waste in the Zografou Campus of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens. The EIA was performed and approved by the competent authority on the 21/9/2009. The EIA and the approval document have been provided to the Bank.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

There is currently no obligation for Near Zero Energy buildings, which is expected to be the case for designs submitted after 2018. The university building as all public buildings in Greece need to comply to the European Directive 2002/91/EC on the energy performance of buildings (EPBD) and the EPBD recast (Directive 2010/31/EC) enabled through the national law N.3661/2008 the "Regulation on the Energy Performance of Buildings – KENAK".

The designs and the original approvals for most of the projects date before this regulation and consequently the energy performance was not a primary objective of the designs which did

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not include the most up-to-date technologies. Nevertheless, at the request of the Bank, the Universities updated the respective designs assuring that the Energy Classification of the buildings would be at least at B+ (between 50% and 75% of the energy consumption of the reference building and the minimum requirement to obtain a construction permit) and in three cases (3 out of 17) better.

A number of Universities have plans and studies for the further implementation of renewable energy solutions within their campuses, but these plans are not expected to materialise before a 3 to 4-year horizon.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the project covers construction works in urban areas within or close to the existing facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. The project aims at improving the quality of the overall estates as well as the energy efficiency and to ensure a safe operation of various university buildings. In the light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered acceptable for financing by the Bank.