

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	TEMPORÄRE UNTERKÜNFTE NRW
Project Number:	20150832
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	<i>The project aims at providing suitable reception centres and first accommodation for asylum seekers in the North Rhine-Westphalia land.</i>
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The proposed Investment Loan will concern an investment programme of the German federal state (Land) of North Rhine Westphalia (NRW) in the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 for the provision of reception centres and adequate temporary accommodation for asylum seekers until they are re-allocated by the municipalities. The investment will mainly consist of the reconversion, upgrading and new construction of reception and temporary accommodation centres, around 30,000 places, and will be located across the whole land. The asylum seekers will stay in the temporary accommodation centres around six weeks before they are re-allocated to the municipalities. It is noted that this is the first Bank-financed project in which reception centres and first temporary accommodation would be covered – other projects have focused on temporary accommodation (eg. Brandenburg) or social housing initially used for refugees (Niedersachsen).

The municipal planning in Germany is subject to SEA. The asylum seekers first accommodation is intended to be located in urban land.

The 246 BauGB (Land Use and Building Act) was modified to allow for temporary changes in use of urban land. The normal planning process would take more than three years preventing the use of any vacated land with no residential use. It is understood that the changes of land use are temporal and to make them permanent they must follow the normal planning process. Additionally, the measures adopted derogate the energy standards required by the Energy Savings Ordinance (25 a EnEV) for temporary lightweight buildings construction.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The project is expected to significantly contribute to the urban environment by helping to provide acceptable conditions for asylum seekers arriving in the land. It is estimated that the operation will result in a significant number of positive social externalities (e.g. improved integration of refugees in the local spatial and social context, reduction of tensions with population in the local neighbourhoods). The project is also in line with EIB requirements for refugee related projects.

The allocation of refugees in the different places is always subject to public consultation.

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 CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Before the location of reception centres and first accommodation centres, the hosting community is to be consulted. All the planning exceptional measures are temporary.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The investment programme is designed in a way to achieve the delivery of adequate accommodation and reception facilities for about 90,000 people in three years. A cost-efficient implementation of the project and acceptable economic and financial performance will be ensured through the sound approach and procedures applied by the Promoter with (i) sub-projects that focus on needs and priorities (ii) seeking the consensus of the hosting communities; (iii) designing sub-projects in an affordable way and (iv) reliable financial controls and physical monitoring. Thus the Project is acceptable to the Bank in environmental and social terms.

PJ/ECSO 15.10.15