

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	HUS HEALTH CARE INVESTMENT PROGRAMME III
Project Number:	2017-0523
Country:	Finland
Project Description:	The investment programme 2018 to 2022 consisting of construction, renovation, adaptation and extension of about 17 buildings for the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa in the Uusimaa region in the south of Finland.
EIA required:	yes/no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

The project consists of financing a five-year investment programme (2018-2022) of the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS). The project targets investments for a number of hospitals, some of which will be refurbished while others will be extended. In addition, the programme includes new buildings to be constructed within an existing hospital campus, mainly in the Meilahti area of the Helsinki University Central Hospital (HUCH).

Though Hospitals and related facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), these type of projects are covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. In the case of urban development, the Directive has been transposed in the national legislation with regard to the establishment of land use and urban development plans (Land Use and Building Act 132/1999). In respect to the Meilahti site, a revised land use plan was approved by the City Council of Helsinki, which defines the future development of the site, and has been in force as of January 2015.

In regards to the remaining sites, the project covers mostly renovations and smaller extensions of existing buildings which should be all covered by existing land use plans and therefore the promoter does not expect that an EIA will be required for any these subprojects. However, since the building permits for some of the individual projects are still pending, it remains possible that some of them could be screened in. If any of the remaining subprojects require an EIA, the Promoter shall make the relevant documentation available to the EIB.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

HUS has joined the national energy efficiency agreement for the municipal sector (Kuntien energiatehokkuussopimus), which is an initiative aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Finland while improving energy efficiency as required by the energy efficiency directive (EED). The actual investment programme is an integral part of this strategy.

The organisation has previously committed to improving energy efficiency by 4 % (minus 10 404 MWh) by 2020 and 7,5% (minus 19 507 MWh) by 2025 compared to the consumption in 2015. Based on the current mix of energy sources, with electricity and district heating being

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the dominant sources, the CO₂ reductions will be in the range of 3 075t CO₂/y to 5 300 t CO₂/y. Once completed, the promoter shall make the updated numbers available to the EIB.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the project covers works within or close to existing facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. Overall the modernisation of existing buildings as well as the construction of new facilities will improve hygiene and safety conditions and will enable the Promoter to apply stringent statutory and technical conditions.

Overall, the rehabilitation and replacement of the outdated hospital facilities will improve hygiene and safety. Due to the use of new materials and technologies, the new and modernised buildings will increase overall energy efficiency. By enabling a better cooperation among the various bodies within the hospital, the project will enable the introduction of better and more cost effective methods for medical treatment and includes beneficial elements in terms of social cohesion and protection.

In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered acceptable.

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