

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	GVM – MEDICAL CARE
Project Number:	2017-0617
Country:	Italy & France
Project Description:	Financing of the promoter's investments in healthcare infrastructure (construction, renovation and extension), medical equipment and applied research over the period 2017-2021 in Italy and France. Part of the project will be located in the Mezzogiorno convergence area.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project consists of the five-year investment plan (2017-2021) of GVM (Gruppo Villa Maria) group. More specifically, the plan covers the construction of two new hospital facilities (one in Palermo, Sicily, Italy and one in Paris, France) plus the refurbishment of five health care facilities in different regions in Italy (Tuscany, Piedmont, Lombardy, Campania and Sicily). In addition, research and development collaboration schemes are included in the plan.

Although hospitals and related healthcare and research facilities are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Annex II of the Directive covers these types of project in relation to urban development. In the case of urban development, the Directive has been transposed into the National legislation with regard to the establishment of land use and urban development plans.

For the case of the facility in Palermo (Italy), the site is part of a land use program (PRUSST: Program for the Urban Requalification and the Sustainable Territorial Development), in which the new hospital is included. Regarding the new hospital in Paris (France), the construction will take place in areas previously occupied by a surface parking area and other buildings that will be demolished as part of the project. In both cases, the relevant construction permits have been issued without a request for an EIA by the respective Competent Authority.

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.

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For the remaining sites, where the project comprises renovation and minor extensions to existing buildings, all of these are covered by existing land use plans and are not expected to require an EIA.

Since the construction permits for some of the individual schemes are still pending, or variations have been requested, it could still be possible for some of them to be screened in as requiring an EIA. Therefore, the Bank shall request that the Promoter inform the Bank of the decision and where an EIA is required, the Promoter shall send a copy of the EIA documentation to the Bank.

All of the sub-projects of the investment plan include specific design and construction features aimed at improving the energy efficiency of the facilities such as: high efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) installations and systems, improved building fabric thermal insulation, LED lighting, higher energy efficient window fenestration and energy monitoring systems. The Promoter shall provide to the Bank the specific data on energy simulations and/or audits, determining the energy savings resulting from the investment, as they become available during the implementation of the project.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Promoter has previously engaged in the utilisation of “Certificati Bianchi” (white certificates), a financial incentive mechanism made available by the Italian Government to promote investments that reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency. The Promoter remains committed to continue using such a mechanism, actively participating when it can, also including the current investment plan.

The project also anticipates having positive social impacts, such as in one of the renovation schemes of the plan which includes a POT (presidio ospedaliero territoriale – territorial health centre). This is a type of facility promoted by the Lombardy Region (Italy) for the integrated management and delivery of health and social services, particularly aimed at chronically ill patients.

Conclusions and Recommendations

As the project covers works within the premises of or close to existing facilities, no significant impact is expected on the environment. Overall, the project, through the renovation of existing buildings and the construction of new ones, will enable the Promoter to improve the hygiene and safety conditions of the concerned facilities and increase their level of energy efficiency.

In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is considered acceptable, with only minor negative residual impacts. It is therefore considered eligible for the Bank's financing.