

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	E-HEALTH IRELAND
Project Number:	2018-0276
Country:	Ireland
Project Description:	The project involves the strategic investments in digitalisation of the Irish health sector, including supporting the National Electronic Health Record Programme. The programme is well embedded in The e-Health Strategy Ireland.
EIA required:	To be determined

The promoter undertakes to submit to the Bank the full document of the Environmental Impact Assessment as per directive 2014/52/EU amending directive 2011/92/EU for any capital investments of the project requiring an EIA, prior to the utilisation of the Bank's funds for the specific parts of the project.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	No
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Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project includes the set-up of the national configuration of e-health solutions and the technical implementation of the envisaged programme in 2018 - 2027. Concretely, the project concerns i) the introduction of the Individual Health Identifier Number, enabling the identification of each patient in Ireland; ii) establishment of the electronic health records (EHR) system for storing patients' data during a hospital stay (Acute EHR) and outpatients services (Community EHR). The most important information about a patient's health, important to be shared between relevant health care services providers, will be stored in the National Shared Record. Furthermore, the investment programme will also contain iii) Integrated Finance Management System for managing financial aspects of health sector operations; iv) Digital Workplace to provide health professionals functional interface with e-Health applications; and v) ePharmacy introducing e-prescriptions. vi) The last part of the programme (Lighthouse projects) will contain applications dedicated to help patients and medical professionals in dealing with selected chronic diseases such as haemophilia.

The IT investments and development activities included in the project do not fall under any Annexes of the EIA Directive. However, some minor construction or refurbishment works to house data centres, servers and the team may take place during the project's implementation, although it is highly unlikely that these developments will require an EIA. However, if the need of an EIA occurs for any components of the project, the promoter undertakes to submit the full EIA document of any construction components of the project that require an EIA, before the utilisation of the respective Bank's funds.

Luxembourg, 23 July 2018

The residual project risks are deemed low. The project scope is linked to IT investments and developments for the health sector; the project activities therefore do not induce any environmental risk.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The successful introduction of the e-health nation-wide strategy aims to increase the quality, safety and range of health care services provision. Therefore, the implementation of the project is expected to bring wide-spread positive effects for all residents of Ireland.

Conclusions and Recommendations

It is highly unlikely that these developments will require an EIA. However, if the need of an EIA occurs for any components of the project, the promoter undertakes to submit the full EIA document to the Bank. The residual project risks are deemed low. The successful introduction of the e-health nation-wide strategy aims to increase the quality, safety and range of health care services provision in Ireland. In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered acceptable for the Bank's financing.