

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

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| Project Name:  | CHARLEROI HOSPITAL (GHDC)   |
| Project Number:  | 2015-0118   |
| Country:   | Belgium   |
| Project Description:   | The Project consists in the construction of the new “Grand Hôpital de Charleroi (GHdC)” on a brownfield site of a former coalmine in Charleroi (Walloon Region, Hainaut Province, Belgium). The new hospital will replace five old hospital facilities that are no longer fit for modern hospital practice and patient needs. |
| EIA required:  | yes   |
| Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> : | no  |

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The design of the new hospital is based on the legal requirements that were applicable at the time of the building permit application (Q1-2014). However the building shell design will actually achieve the energy efficiency standards of the more stringent NZEB requirements that will come into force at the beginning of 2021 (beginning of 2019 for public buildings).

In addition, the project includes special technical feature to manage the building lighting in order to reduce the energy consumption in the new hospital (LED lighting, presence detection, adaptive lighting depending on outside luminosity) as well as modern air treatment systems (fan and air handling units) to match the European legislation that will be applicable as of 2018.

In December 2016, the promoter also decided to invest into cogeneration and geothermal energy to provide the new site with own energy sourcing allowing a significant reduction of the energy footprint of the new hospital.

Regarding the Environmental Impact assessment (EIA), the promoter had to deal with the relocation of some protected toad species. The action plan to preserve the Fauna was developed in cooperation with the University of Liege - Agro-Bio Tech (ULg), and successfully implemented during 2016, before starting any construction work.

#### Social Assessment, where applicable

The project will facilitate the access to improved healthcare services for the patients of the Charleroi area therefore having a positive social impact on the population of the entire region.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Luxembourg, 6 February 2019

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

In accordance with European and National laws, a public consultation was organised as part of the EIA appraisal process between June 15<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The comments and/or complaints expressed by the public have been dealt with and adequately taken into account in the project implementation plan.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

During the preparation phase of the project, invasive plants were found on site including some species that are particularly difficult to get rid of. The issue mentioned in the EIA has been very carefully handled by the promoter. A first phase of eradication has taken place during 2017 on one part of the site, using very strict operating procedures to prevent any dissemination on and out of the site. The same procedures will be used during the next phases of the construction to clear the rest of invasive plants off the site.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The Project consists in the construction of a new replacement hospital (replacing 5 existing facilities) on a brownfield site. Hospitals are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending directive 2011/92/EU, though the project is covered by Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development; the EIA requirement was “screened in” by the competent authorities mainly because of the size of the new hospital and its impact on the urban development of the related area in the suburb of Charleroi.

Overall, the project will provide the patients of the region with improved access to healthcare services, the project is therefore considered acceptable for Bank financing.

PJ/SQM/ECSO 20.12.2018