

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	NCSR DEMOKRITOS INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION PROJECT
Project Number:	2018-0744
Country:	Greece
Project Description:	The project comprises the expansion and modernisation of the R&D infrastructure within the National Centre for Scientific Research (NCRS) "Demokritos" including its Lefkippos Technology Park. The project involves the construction of three new buildings, the demolition and reconstruction of another building and the renovation of seven other buildings. The project will seek to build, renovate and equip just over 38,000m ² of improved facilities to continue to support and strengthen the R&D activities at NCRS "Demokritos".
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project comprises the construction of three new buildings, the demolition and reconstruction of another building and the renovation of seven other buildings within the existing scientific research park campus of the National Centre for Scientific Research "Demokritos". The project is located in Athens, Greece.

The buildings will house research, development and innovation activities over a range of scientific and technological fields. The nature of these activities will remain broadly the same and will not seek to increase emissions or discharges of potential pollutants.

The renovation works will take place in existing buildings and the new buildings will be built on the existing campus replacing obsolete buildings that have come to the end of their useful economic life. The Demokritos campus itself is adjacent to a Natura 2000 site, however none of the project investments will be located within the Natura 2000 zone or immediately adjacent to it.

The new buildings will be designed to be a nearly zero energy buildings (NZEB) and will include some passive design measures in an attempt to significantly reduce its primary energy consumption. Moreover, the project investments will seek to reduce their energy consumption with the installation of best available energy efficient technologies, including renewable energy apparatus onsite, and enhancements to the building fabric leading to an estimated net saving of just over 600 tons of CO₂ compared with its current CO₂ emissions as a result of current energy consumption. A copy of the energy model and on completion a copy of the energy performance certificate will be requested by the EIB.

Research and development facilities of this kind are not specifically mentioned in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU, though the project is covered by

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Annex II of the Directive in relation to urban development. The development of the Demokritos campus is in accordance with the Local Campus Plan agreed with the local planning authority. As such, the promoter confirms that an environmental impact assessment is not required for any of the project components as the foreseen project is fully covered by an approved urban development plan.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The project will provide additional facilities to strengthen and enhance the research, development and innovation capacity within Athens, the Attica region and Greece, increasing the formation of human capital enabling Demokritos to attract high calibre researchers and professors to sustain the excellent research taking place within the campus. The outcomes from the research at Demokritos and participation of its various scientific institutes in wider research groups has provided significant improvements to a variety of scientific and technological fields in Greece, Europe and beyond through its cooperation networks improving the body of scientific knowledge and application in technological developments.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is enabling Demokritos to create additional state-of-the-art research, development and innovation facilities within its existing campus. The project is part of an ongoing strategic programme to modernise its buildings enhancing the working environment for all of its research and technical staff. Due to the investment and use of new materials and technologies, the new and renovated buildings will increase the overall energy efficiency of Demokritos' campus.

The EIB will request a copy of the energy model report. In addition, the EIB will request a copy of the Energy Performance Certificate(s) (EPC) or equivalent will be provided on completion of the new building. In light of the above, the overall environmental and social rating of the project is therefore considered to be acceptable for the Bank's financing.

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