



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 13 December 2019

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	Poland Science & Research National Centres IV
Project Number:	2017-0101
Country:	Poland
Project Description:	Financing of the operations of the National Science Centre (NSC) and the National Centre for Research and Development (NCRD) in 2017 and 2018 under the guidance of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. The NSC finances mainly basic research grants while the NCRD finances grants for applied research and development activities. The beneficiaries of the grants are located in all regions of the country.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

The major part of the project included intangible research expenditures. A small part of the cost was allocated to the purchase of materials and small-scale research equipment to be used for the research activities. The included research activities were carried out within existing facilities, making use of existing installation and within already authorised scope. Such activities create intangible assets (new knowledge and scientific discoveries), which do not fall under the Directive 2011/92 as amended by 2014/52/EU on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

At completion, the research activities conducted in the field of climate action (mitigation and adaptation) represented 4% of the project investment costs, compared with 8% estimated at appraisal stage. Due to the nature of competitive bottom-up funding that forms large part of the project investment cost, it is not possible to forecast precisely what type of projects will be financed during the implementation period.

The promoter confirmed that they require the beneficiaries to comply with all relevant legal provisions regarding social, environmental and research ethical matters. To verify this, the centres audit a sample of beneficiaries annually. No significant environment or social issues concerning the research activities financed by the centres were noted.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter and site visits by the EIB team that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.