The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia

Nemanjina 22-26, 11000 Belgrade

SERBIA NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SCREENING REPORT

for

New BSL-3 building – Second floor project

Left wing – Galenic Laboratory for Allergen Production
Right wing – Relocation of the Department for Scientific Research

Subproject No.002

FINAL

B E L G R A D E, August 2025

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Abbreviations

EHS	Environmental, Health and Safety
EHSG	World Bank Group Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment compliant to Serbian Law
ES	Environmental and Social
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact assessment compliant to WB ESF
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
EU	European Union
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HORMP	Human and Occupational Resource Management Procedure
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
IgE	Immunoglobulin E
LMP	Labor Management Procedure
MOH	The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia
NCD	Noncommunicable Diseases
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SH	Sexual Harassment
SNDPCP	Serbia Noncommunicable Diseases Prevention and Control Project
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization

1 INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Serbia has received financing in the amount of EUR 70,700,000 equivalent from the World Bank toward the cost of **Serbia Noncommunicable Diseases Prevention and Control Project** (SNDPCP) to assist the country's efforts to enhance prevention and management of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and improve health outcomes for its population.

Cardiovascular diseases and cancer are responsible for more than three-quarters of all deaths in Serbia. Moreover, out-of-pocket expenditures remain significant, as patients pay for private laboratory, diagnostic services and specialist consultations that are often not immediately available in the public sector.

One of the objectives of the project is to enhance the competence and accountability of health service providers. For the general population, bolstering prevention and management of NCDs will be achieved through increased screening for early detection of colon cancer and blood testing for routine management of diabetes and hypertension. The focus on improving the quality of chemotherapy will also offer cancer patients a standard of care and treatments that can improve the quality of their lives.

The Project consists of three main components that include activities aiming to improve prevention, early detection and effective management of NCDs. These components support interventions to: (i) improve competence and accountability of health care providers; (ii) increase access to and availability of health services; and (iii) strengthen quality of clinical services and public health measures. Digital solutions will be integrated in all components to facilitate effective delivery of intended outcomes. A fourth component supports Project management and monitoring and evaluation, while a fifth component provides flexibility to respond in the event of a crisis or emergency.

Operations and activities for which the World Bank`s Investment Project Financing (IPF) is sought after October 1, 2018, fall under the application of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF)[1]. The ESF comprises, inter alia, the 10 Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), which set out mandatory requirements for the Borrower and the Project.

To address the potential environmental and social impacts attributable to the Project as a whole, and it`s Subprojects, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) was developed during Appraisal in 2023 with its objective to identify, assess, evaluate and manage risks and impacts in a manner consistent with the relevant WB ESS, relevant EU requirements (those transposed to the national legislation) and national legal requirements and standards. The ESMF has designed steps, processes, and procedures for screening, preparation and implementation, risk commensurate assessment, management, reporting and monitoring of environmental and social risks and impacts for each subproject.

All activities to be financed under the Project are subject to the project specific environmental and social screening, following the guidelines for screening subprojects for ES risks. The screening aims to identify ES risks and potential impacts at the subprojects' levels, so that adequate avoidance, minimization or offset measures can be applied, as appropriate.

Annex 02 of the ESMF contains the specific screening form, setting out a number of categories of impacts against which the subproject will be screened and decisions on management instruments can be taken.

The screening process has been undertaken with the following objectives:

- Assessment of eligibility of activities (activities are screened against the list of excluded activities given in Annex 01 of the ESMF)

[1] The ESF is accessible at - https://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/environmental-and-social-framework. Latest accessed in August 2023

- Identification of potential adverse environmental and social risks and impacts of the proposed subproject activity
- Risk classification of the subproject (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low);
- Determination whether further environmental and social assessments are required, and
- Assessment and determination which management instruments are required to address the potential risks and impacts.

This Environmental and Social screening report is prepared for subproject **#002 – New BSL-3 building – Second floor project: Left wing - Galenic Laboratory for Allergen Production and Right wing - Relocation of the Department for Scientific Research (hereinafter referred to as: Subproject)**.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND LOCAL CONTEXT

The Institute for Virology, Vaccines and Serums "Torlak", founded more than 90 years ago, is a national producer of high-quality, safe and effective vaccines from the Program of Mandatory and Recommended Population Immunization, as well as serums and other immunobiological and diagnostic preparations. In addition to production, the "Torlak" Institute is engaged in virological, bacteriological and immunology-allergology diagnostics, as well as scientific research and educational activities. The institute has a certificate for the National Stockpile of Vaccines obtained by the World Health Organization and UNICEF, which makes it unique in supplying the domestic market with vaccines from the mandatory immunization program, i.e. in storing and distributing vaccines.

The World Bank approved a loan of 100 million dollars to the Republic of Serbia on May 26, 2020 for the implementation of “Serbia Emergency COV1D-19 Response Project” (SECRP). Within the SECRP subcomponent 1.1, the construction of a new facility within the "Torlak" Institute is completed, in which all existing diagnostic laboratories are planned to be located, as well as a new diagnostic laboratory of biosafety 1eve1 3 (BSL-3).

The scope of work defined by the project refers to the construction of the entire building, i.e. putting the garage, ground floor and first floor into operation, while the second floor is defined as a single volume manipulative space. The infrastructure of the second floor was not designed or planned in order to bring it into functional condition.

In order to respond to the challenges of modernizing production and reaching the level of Good Manufacturing Practice (GPM), Institute "Torlak" has prepared the Plan of infrastructural and program restructuring, which includes the functional utilization of the new building (second floor) which will be funded by WB loan under the Serbia Noncommunicable Diseases and Control Project (SNDCP). Work is currently underway on the layouts for the galenic laboratory, located on the left wing of the second floor, and the scientific laboratories, located on the right wing of the second floor (Annex 1, Figure 3.).

BSL-3 consultants are actively engaged in the process and have been comprehensively briefed on the intended functions of both the second and third floors. Detailed planning is underway to ensure that existing workflows are maintained without disruption. Upon finalization, the second floor layout will be submitted to the BSL-3 consultants for formal review and approval.

Second floor:

- The left wing – Galenic laboratory / production of allergens

- The right wing – Relocation of the Department for Scientific Research

3 SCOPE OF SUBPROJECT INVESTMENT

3.1 Left wing – Galenic laboratory / production of allergens

It is known that chronic non-communicable diseases place a great burden on patients and the entire healthcare system. Allergic diseases are on the list of the WHO among the top three chronic diseases that need to be prevented and controlled in the 21st century. It is estimated that almost 500 million people worldwide have allergic rhinitis and about 300 million have allergic asthma, and that number is constantly growing.

Allergic diseases such as allergic rhinitis, allergic asthma, atopic dermatitis, food allergy and eczema are systemic diseases accompanied by high recurrence rates and a significant increase in the number of patients.

The pathogenesis of these diseases is complex and includes a large number of factors including genetics, epigenetics, environmental factors and the immune status of the organism. Pathogenesis of allergic disease shows remarkable heterogeneity, where the phenotype and endotype define visible characteristics and associated molecular mechanisms.

According to WHO, allergen immunotherapy is the only targeted treatment that naturally modifies allergic disease and its progression.

Bearing in mind the fact that one of the extremely important factors for the development of allergic diseases is the influence of the environment, including the pollination of characteristic plant species, the Institute for Virology, Vaccines and Serums "Torlak" has included in its production program the production of allergens *for in vivo* diagnostics and immunotherapy. The decades-long production is carried out at the laboratory level, and for the needs of the individual patient. The mentioned products are intended *in vivo* diagnosis and therapy of IgE-mediated allergic diseases (respiratory allergies, food allergies, insect venom allergy, drug allergies (immediate type), anaphylaxis and urticaria and angioedema (acute).

The increased frequency of allergic diseases, the increase in the need for *in vivo* diagnostics, as the gold standard in this area, as well as the increase in the need for targeted immunotherapy treatment indicate the need to raise the production of allergens to a higher level.

The production of allergens in the form of galenic products is the goal of the "Torlak" Institute. The "Torlak" Institute has decades of experience in the production of vaccines, serums, lactopreparations, allergens, microbiological media and immunodiagnostic preparations, recognizable both on the domestic and on the world market for the quality, safety and efficiency of the product.

Raising allergen production to a higher level is possible by building and developing a Galenic laboratory in the new building (second floor). This is important, primarily because it will enable a significant increase in production capacity, which is necessary to meet the growing demand for these products. The organization of production in the new building provides an opportunity for the installation of modern production and laboratory equipment, which will increase the efficiency and quality of production. The new production facility enables production conditions that are required by Good Manufacturing Practices, which includes control of biosafety and biosafety of allergen production, the possibility of better organization, increased productivity, greater availability of products for diagnostics and therapy, and employee satisfaction. For the department for allergen production, meeting the requirements of the DPP would also open opportunities for market expansion. Also, this process will enable better integration and cooperation between different departments within production and development, which will accelerate the process of innovation and development of new products. For this Department, the costs of infrastructural furnishing of space and procurement of production equipment are planned.

The relocation of this Department is in accordance with the set specific strategic goals of the Institute, especially through following goals:

Goal 1: Improvement of production facilities and development of new production capacities (activity Alignment of production facilities with requirements for Galenic production of allergens for in vivo diagnostics and immunotherapy),

Goal 2: Development new and improvement of existing products (Standardization of allergens in relation to key carriers of allergenicity and Production of recombinant allergens) and

Goal 3: Improvement of the allergy-diagnostic laboratory within the Institute.

It is important to emphasize that the harmonization of therapeutic treatment in accordance with the previously established diagnosis and allergen testing characteristic of our geographical area enables timely undertaking of preventive and therapeutic measures in the Republic of Serbia.

Increasing the availability of allergen immunotherapy to the population of the Republic of Serbia, as well as improving the therapeutic treatment of allergic diseases in the Republic of Serbia, should be seen as part of the improvement of the general health of the population of the Republic of Serbia.

The effectiveness of the application of allergen immunotherapy was recorded due to the reduction of the use of medication and the improvement of the patient's clinical picture. In addition to improving the health of allergic patients, this method of treatment also makes significant savings in treatment because it prevents the onset of allergic asthma, a disease with potentially numerous complications, which is extremely expensive to treat if medications are used.

The realization of this project creates the conditions for continuous provision of preventive health care. Through this program, work on the constant improvement of the general state of health in the Republic of Serbia is supported, in accordance with the Public Health Strategy of the Republic of Serbia and the Strategy for Continuous Improvement of Healthcare and Patient Safety.

In accordance with the views of the WHO, it is possible to apply allergenic immunotherapy in the population of allergic patients aged 5 to 65 years with pollens characteristic of our climate, as well as with other inhaled allergens in a very short period of time compared to diagnosing the disease.

Specifically, given the increase in allergic diseases (10%-15%), this project is of key importance for preserving the health of the population of the Republic of Serbia with a preventive effect on the development of allergic asthma.

The project involves the adaptation of existing building and equipping of a new Galenic laboratory (second floor) within the Torlak Institute for the production of allergens used in *in vivo* diagnostics and immunotherapy. The goal is to scale up the production of allergen-based diagnostics and treatments to address increasing national health demands in Serbia.

3.2 Right Wing – Department for Scientific Research

The Department for Scientific Research conducts basic and applied research that leads to new scientific discoveries and innovations in the field of virology, microbiology, biosafety and biosecurity. The research can result in the development of new technologies, diagnostic methods and therapeutic approaches that can significantly improve public health practice and efficiency in the treatment and prevention of diseases. Research results should have a direct impact on production processes, enabling the development and improvement of products such as vaccines, diagnostic tests and other biomedical products. This cooperation ensures that the products of the "Torlak" Institute are based on the most modern scientific knowledge.

Employees of the Department of Scientific Research are actively involved in numerous projects.

The Department for Scientific Research currently occupies laboratory and office space on the second floor of the Center for Immunological Research building (building no. 4) and functions under relatively poor conditions (the roof leaks, there is poor thermal insulation and there is a problem of maintaining a constant temperature, which is necessary for the operation of the cooling. The department also occupies a space in the basement (of approximately 100 m2) in which there is an apparatus for flow cytofluorimetry and a confocal microscope, as well as a histology laboratory.

The project involves the relocation of the Department for Scientific Research of the Institute "Torlak," a facility focused on virology, microbiology, biosafety, and biosecurity. The current infrastructure is inadequate due to issues such as leaking roofs, insufficient thermal insulation, and poor temperature control, which compromises sensitive scientific equipment and processes.

The project aims to

- Improve laboratory conditions.

- Enhance integration of research with production and diagnostics.

- Foster innovation through advanced research

- Strengthen institutional capacity for scientific publication and project acquisition.

The new facility will support basic and applied research, diagnostics, and production of biomedical products, including diagnostic tests, with significant public health implications.

The relocation of the Department for Scientific Research is in accordance with the strategic determination and new orientation in the organization of the work of the Institute, which envisages a tighter connection of various departments, primarily the Department for Scientific Research with the departments where production activities are carried out or diagnostic services are provided, with the aim of better utilization of personnel capacity and implementation of the results of scientific research work in the production and diagnostic activities of the Institute, as well as increasing the opportunities for obtaining projects and publishing relevant scientific publications. Also, the relocation is in accordance with the findings and recommendations received within the SAIGE[2] project, within which the reorganization of the Department for Scientific Research has already been carried out.

The relocation of this service is in accordance with the set specific strategic goals of the Institute, especially through following goals:

Goal 1: Increasing the quality of fundamental and applied research and the development of innovations oriented towards the Institute's product portfolio,

Goal 2: Development of new and improvement of existing products,

Goal 3: Improving the work of diagnostic and control laboratories and

Goal 4: Intensification of the Institute's educational activities.

[2] WB funded Serbia Accelerating Innovation and Growth Entrepreneurship Project

4 APPLICABLE WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STANDARDS

4.1 Project related land acquisition and restriction on land

Project's activities do not require permanent acquisition of private land for its development, use of land that is currently occupied or regularly used for productive purposes, physical displacement of individuals, families or businesses, or would result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees or household infrastructure.

Consequently, **World bank standard ESS5** Land Acquisition, Restrictions on land Use and Involuntary Resettlement **is not relevant for the project.**

Works will be within the existing right of way on land and buildings owned by the Republic of Serbia. Access to and from the future construction site is enabled through the newly constructed building complex. No temporary occupation of private land for stockpiling is anticipated as the construction site itself provides sufficient area for safe storage of materials and equipment.

4.2 Protected areas and cultural heritage

All project works will be interior, within the newly constructed building, so there are no protected areas or cultural heritage that can be impacted by project works and operation.

Consequently, **World bank standards ESS6** Biodiversity Conservation and sustainable management of living Natural Resources **and ESS8** Cultural Heritage **are not relevant for the project**

4.3 Applicable Standards

ESS	Title	Relevance
ESS1	Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	**Applicable**. Core requirement for ESMP/ESMP Checklist
ESS2	Labor and Working Conditions	**Applicable**. Involves institutional staff and possible contracted workers. Labor and working conditions, including OHS for lab and construction staff.
ESS3	Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	**Applicable**. Pollution prevention, waste management, HVAC, and emissions control. Pertinent due to laboratory waste and energy efficiency needs
ESS4	Community Health and Safety	**Applicable**. Related to biosafety/biosecurity of biomedical research
ESS10	Stakeholder Engagement and information Disclosure	**Applicable**. Stakeholder outreach and engagement required.

5 SUBPROJECT ELIGIBILITY - EXCLUSION LIST OF PROJECT / ACTIVITIES

Activities that are listed in the World Bank Group IFC Exclusion List (given in Annex 01 of the ESMF document) are not eligible for support under the project. Therefore, Project Coordination Unit (PCU) screened subproject activities for its eligibility and results are presented in following table:

Subproject Name	New BSL-3 building - Second floor project Left wing – Galenic Laboratory for Allergen Production Right wing – Relocation of the Department for Scientific Research
Subproject Location	New diagnostic laboratory building with BSL-3 at the Torlak Institute, Belgrade
Subproject Proponent	Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia

Activity	**Answer**	
	Yes	No
Production or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under host country laws or regulations or international conventions and agreements, or subject to international bans, such as pharmaceuticals, pesticides/herbicides, ozone depleting substances, PCB's, wildlife or products regulated under CITES.		✓
Production or trade in weapons and munitions.[1]		✓
Production or trade in alcoholic beverages (excluding beer and wine). [1]		✓
Production or trade in tobacco. [1]		✓
Gambling, casinos and equivalent enterprises. [1]		✓
Production or trade in radioactive materials. This does not apply to the purchase of medical equipment, quality control (measurement) equipment and any equipment where IFC considers the radioactive source to be trivial and/or adequately shielded.		✓
Production or trade in unbounded asbestos fibers. This does not apply to purchase and use of bonded asbestos cement sheeting where the asbestos content is less than 20%.		✓
Drift net fishing in the marine environment using nets in excess of 2.5 km. in length.		✓
Production or activities involving harmful or exploitative forms of forced labor[2]/harmful child labor.[3]		✓
Commercial logging operations for use in primary tropical moist forest.		✓
Production or trade in wood or other forestry products other than from sustainably managed forests		✓
Production, trade, storage, or transport of significant volumes of hazardous chemicals, or commercial scale usage of hazardous chemicals. Hazardous chemicals include gasoline, kerosene, and other petroleum products.		✓
Production or activities that impinge on the lands owned, or claimed under adjudication, by Indigenous Peoples, without full documented consent of such peoples.		✓

Activity	Answer	
	Yes	No
Affecting lands or rights of minorities		✓
Significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict		✓
Involve any resettlement (temporary or permanent) or land acquisition/use restriction or adverse impacts on cultural heritage		✓

Footnotes

[1] This does not apply to project sponsors who are not substantially involved in these activities. "Not substantially involved" means that the activity concerned is ancillary to a project sponsor's primary operations.

[2] Forced labor means all work or service, not voluntarily performed, that is extracted from an individual under threat of force or penalty.

[3] Harmful child labor means the employment of children that is economically exploitive, or is likely to be hazardous to, or to interfere with, the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health, or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development.

CERTIFICATION

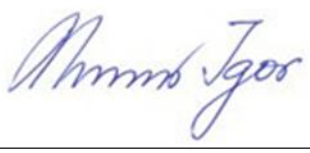
Project Proponent:

The Project Proponent, in signing this form proves that the project activity will not involve land acquisition, any form of construction, or will promote any activities on the World Bank Group IFC exclusion list. No ESIA is required as per WB ESF and ESS1.

Environmental and Social Experts engaged by the Project:

I hereby certify that I have thoroughly examined all the potential adverse effects of this sub project. To the best of our knowledge, the sub project avoid /avoids all adverse environmental and social impacts.

In accordance with the contracted scope and type of consulting services, the Environmental and Social (ES) Specialists engaged by the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) have verified the fulfillment of formal conditions for the realization of the project in relation to the required Environmental and Social Standards of the lender (World Bank). The ES Specialists did not engage in the assessment of the technical documentation, nor was the authenticity of the documentation provided by the designer examined.

Form checked by (PCU Environmental Specialist) Project category is: H S (M) L	
Date	May 09, 2025
Name	Igor Radovic
Title	M.Sc.Civ.Eng.
Signature	

Form checked by (PCU Social Specialist) Project category is: H S (M) L	
Date	May 09, 2025
Name	Prof.dr. Ksenija Petovar
Title	Sociologist
Signature	

Project Proponent
(MOH/PCU)

6 SCREENING OF SUBPROJECT'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

6.1 Project's ES Screening as per national Law on EIA

In accordance with the Regulation on the Establishment of the List of Projects for Which an Environmental Impact Assessment is Mandatory and the List of Projects for Which an Environmental Impact Assessment May Be Required ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 114/08.), the subject facility is **not listed in List I** of projects for which an EIA is mandatory.

However, the Project might fall under the List II of projects for which an environmental impact assessment may be required based on the subject Regulation. List II (Projects for which EIA may be required) includes facilities for packaging and processing of pharmaceutical products (Section 8), which lead to the conclusion that independent laboratory facilities involving potentially hazardous materials might fall under discretionary screening - EIA Screening Procedure is required.

Justification. The project includes:

- Laboratory-based scientific and diagnostic research in virology, microbiology, and biosecurity,
- Handling of infectious and hazardous biological materials,
- Use of advanced laboratory equipment,
- Potential generation of biomedical and hazardous waste,
- Physical relocation and infrastructure improvements, but no mention of industrial-scale production or on-site waste treatment.

Conclusion:

- **EIA is not automatically mandatory** (i.e., not on List I),
- The new project design is not expected to bring any new risks which would need additional mitigation measures, which were not assessed and covered by the ESIA.
- The project **requires a formal screening** by the competent environmental authority,
- PCU will submit either a Request about the need for EIA Study to the competent authority or a Request for extension of validity of the existing Decision on the absence of the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment Study, issued by the competent authority for the project of construction of a new building with a BSL-3 laboratory.
- Depending on the Project design, volume and nature of waste, and proximity to sensitive receptors (e.g., population, water sources), the competent authority will **decide whether a full EIA is needed or not**.

6.2 ES Screening as per Project's ESMF

The environmental and social risks associated with the Project are site-specific, predictable, and can be effectively managed with standard procedures.

Environmental Risks

- Generation of hazardous waste (biological and chemical) from laboratory activities may lead to soil and water contamination if not properly managed.
- Risk of chemical leaks during storage and laboratory use
- Inadequate ventilation and storage could result in the emission of volatile substances indoors.
- Risk of airborne allergens or chemical emissions
- Potential environmental risks during the transport of infectious and chemical waste

- Significant increase in electricity and water consumption if energy-efficient design is not implemented
- Wastewater discharges from cleaning and sanitation.

Social Risks

- Possible concerns from the local community regarding the presence of a laboratory handling infectious materials in an urban area.
- Lack of information and engagement of employees and the public may cause mistrust and resistance.
- Potential community exposure in the event of an accident (e.g., chemical spill, fire, biological contamination).
- Risks related to equal employment access and non-discrimination during organizational restructuring.
- Risks related to an undeveloped or ineffective grievance mechanism for staff and the community.

Health and Safety Risks

- Exposure of personnel to allergens, infectious agents, toxic chemicals, and harmful vapors
- Inadequate use of personal protective equipment (PPE) increases the risk of injuries and infections
- Risk of accidents during use of laboratory equipment and hazardous substances
- Insufficient staff training in biosafety and emergency procedures
- Absence of clearly defined emergency procedures may result in delayed or inappropriate responses to incidents.

Subproject Name	New BSL-3 building – Second floor project Left wing – Galenic Laboratory for Allergen Production Right wing – Relocation of the Department for Scientific Research
Subproject Location	New diagnostic laboratory building with BSL-3 at the Torlak Institute, Belgrade
Subproject Proponent	Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia

Questions	**Answer**		**ESS relevance**	**Due diligence / Actions**
	Yes	No		
Does the subproject involve civil works including small refurbishment, expansion, upgrading or rehabilitation of healthcare facilities and/or waste management facilities?	✓		ESS1	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP
Does the subproject require preparation of ESIA Study?		✓	ESS1	If YES - exclude from financing
Is there a sound regulatory framework and institutional capacity in place for healthcare facility infection control and healthcare waste management?	✓		ESS1	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP
Does the subproject have appropriate OHS procedures in place, and an adequate supply of PPE (where necessary)?	✓		ESS4	ESMP/ESMPCL

Questions	Answer		ESS relevance	Due diligence / Actions
	Yes	No		
Is the subproject associated with any external waste management facilities such as a sanitary landfill, incinerator, or wastewater treatment plant for healthcare waste disposal?	✓		ESS3	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP
Does the subproject have an adequate system in place (capacity, processes and management) to address waste?	✓		ESS3	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP
Does the subproject involve land acquisition and/or restrictions on land use?		✓	ESS5	If YES - exclude from financing
Does the subproject involve relocation of encroachers or squatters?		✓	ESS5	If YES - exclude from financing
Does the subproject involve acquisition of assets for quarantine, isolation or medical treatment purposes?		✓	ESS5	If YES - exclude from financing
Does the subproject involve recruitment of workers including direct, contracted, primary supply, and/or community workers?	✓		ESS2	HORMP, SEP
Are there any potential risks related to labor conditions or human rights violations including those related to job displacement due to service digitalization?		✓	ESS2	LMP/ESMP
Does the subproject have a GRM in place, to which all workers have access, designed to respond quickly and effectively?	✓		ESS2	LMP/ESMP GRM exists at the PCU level while the Contractor will be required to ensure worker GRM
Are there any concerns and grievances related to labor conditions?		✓	ESS2	LMP, ESMP
Does the subproject involve use of security or military personnel during refurbishment works and/or operation of healthcare facilities and related activities?		✓	ESS4	If YES - exclude from financing
Does the project area present considerable and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) / Sexual Harassment (SH) risk?		✓	ESS1	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP
Has there been any consultation or engagement with local communities, NGOs, or other relevant stakeholders?	✓		ESS10	SEP
Are there any concerns or grievances raised by stakeholders or community regarding the project/subproject?		✓	ESS10	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP
Does the (sub)project have the potential to impact vulnerable people or their rights		✓	ESS1 ESS10	ESMP/ESMPCL, SEP

Questions	Answer		ESS relevance	Due diligence / Actions
	Yes	No		
Does the (sub) project have the potential to lead to job loss?		✓	ESS2 ESS1 ESS10	SEP, LMP
Does the (sub) project have the potential to cause social conflicts or community unrest due to inadequate information sharing about the project or data security issues?		✓	ESS4 ESS10	
Is the subproject located within or in the vicinity of any known cultural heritage sites?		✓	ESS8	ESMP/ESMPCL

7 RISK CLASIFICATION3

a. Proposed Environmental and Social Risk Ratings (High, Substantial, Moderate or Low)

The screening has taken into account, in an integrated way, all relevant direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental and social risks and impacts throughout the project life cycle with focus on impacts during the building adaptation phase. At this point, the assessment concluded that potential adverse risks and impacts on human population and the environment are likely to be moderate. Therefore, it is the finding of this screening that:

Subproject #002 – New BSL-3 building - Second floor project is classified as **MODERATE RISK, both for Environmental and Social risks and impacts,** according to WB ESF Risk Classification.

Justification:

- The Subproject requires no permanent land acquisition and will have no livelihood impacts.
- No protected natural areas or cultural heritage sites are located within or near the Subproject area.
- The Subproject will be implemented within the existing grounds of the Torlak Institute, within the New BSL-3 building, on its second floor. The land and facility are owned by the Republic of Serbia, while the Torlak Institute has a contractual user right established under a long-term contract with the Directorate for Managing State Property of the Republic of Serbia.
- The land and facilities are used solely for the Torlak Institute operation and designated activities. No formal nor informal use of parts of the land or facility as permanent or temporary housing or shelter or in livelihood generating activities has been identified.
- The building adaptation works will be undertaken while the Institute remains under its usual operation
- The Project Level Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been prepared and guides the communication under the Subproject.

[3] This form is used by the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) to screen for the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of a proposed subproject. It helps the PCU in identifying the relevant Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), establishing the ES category for subprojects and specifying the type of environmental and social assessment required, including specific instruments/plans. This screening report is not a substitute for project-specific ES assessments or specific mitigation plans.

- The Project level Grievance Mechanism has been established and is administered by the PCU, while the Contractor will be required to establish a local grievance admission desk and assign adequate personnel.
- The risk from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment is considered negligible given the country context and existing norms. The Torlak Institute has a well-developed Code of conduct. However, the Grievance Mechanism is equipped to utilize the country norm and ensure uptake or delegation of such grievances as well.
- The risks associated with labor risks are assessed as moderate. The tender documents shall include requirements for the Contractor to honor the LMP applicable to the Project and ensure OHS standards are observed. This will require application of OHS standard practice in the use of PPE etc.
- The Contractor will be required to honor the LMP applicable to the Project and ensure OHS standards are observed and shall be required to provide a statement confirming conformity to all national laws and applicable regulations concerning employment, labor and employee relations, and labor and working conditions, including the Human and Occupational Resource Management Procedure (HORMP - LMP) which will be followed during Project implementation.
- Torlak Institute has a sound regulatory framework and institutional capacity in place for healthcare facility infection control and healthcare waste management. This extends to occupational health and safety (OHS) and emergency preparedness procedures. The internal Emergency Preparedness Plan at Torlak has been updated. Prior to the commissioning of the new building, the City of Belgrade Emergency Plan will be finalized to include BSL-3 risks and response measures.

b. Proposed ES Management Plans/ Instruments:

The Subproject activities **are** screened as **Moderate Risk from both the Environmental and Social risk and impacts aspects.** In accordance with the magnitude and scale of ES risks and impacts, the screening concludes that a **Simplified Environmental and Social Management Plan** (**ESMP Checklist**) and an **Action Plan for the Implementation of the SEP relevant to the Subproject will be developed**, as well as **Project Specific Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP)**. This is considered adequate to manage the identified Environmental and Social risks and impacts. The ES instruments shall be compliant with the provisions set forth under the World Bank **ESS1, ESS2, ESS4,** and **ESS10**.

PCU will monitor the Subproject implementation and documented reports will be delivered to the WB.

Form checked by (PCU Environmental Specialist) Project category is: H S (M) L	
Date	May 09, 2025
Name	Igor Radovic
Title	M.Sc.Civ.Eng.
Signature	

Form checked by (PCU Social Specialist) Project category is: H S (M) L	
Date	May 09, 2025
Name	Prof.dr. Ksenija Petovar
Title	Sociologist
Signature	

8 ANEXXES

ANNEX 1 PHOTOS

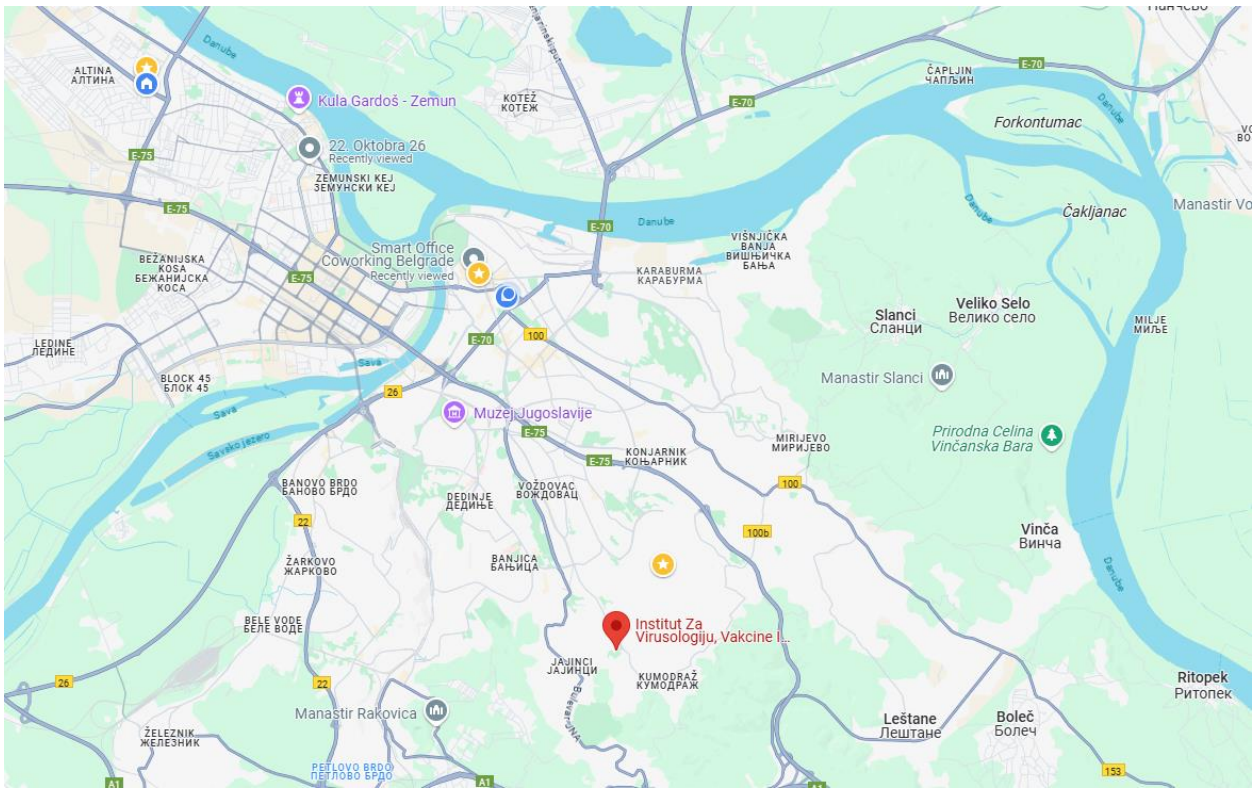


Figure 1: Project location, City of Belgrade Map

Figure 2: Project location, New BSL-3 building at Torlak Institute

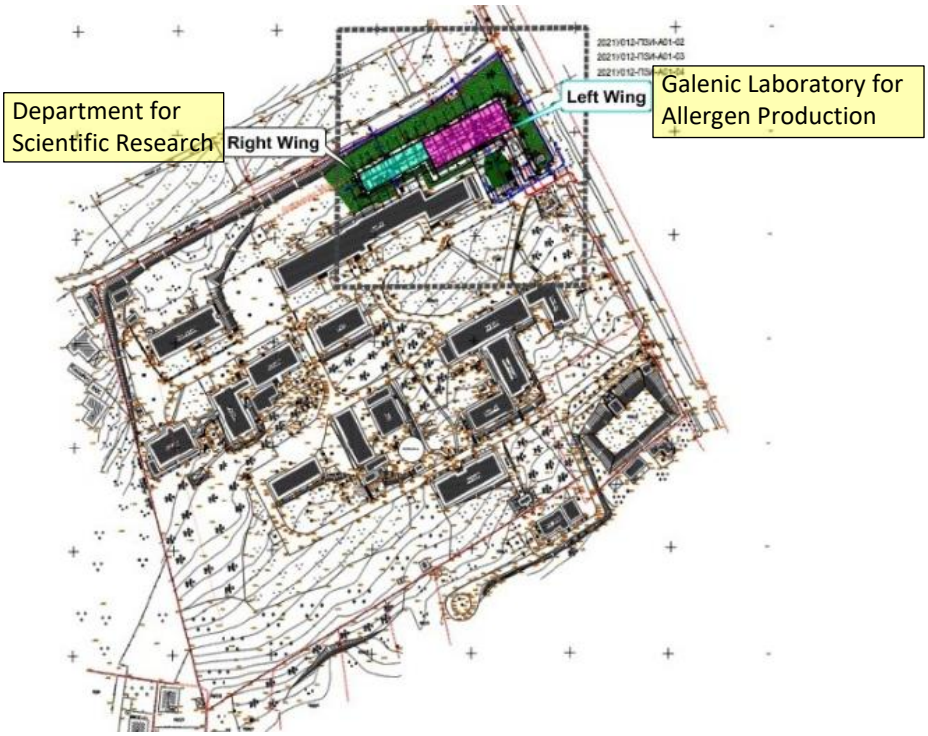


Figure 3: Left and right wing of the new BSL-3 building at Torlak Institute