

European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 12 December 2019

# **Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)**

### **Overview**

Project Name: WILLIAM DEMANT ACOUSTIC TECHNOLOGY RDI

Project Number: 2013-0604

Country: Denmark – France - Poland

Project Description: Financing of William Demant A/S's RDI into hearing

equipment.

## **Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion**

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

The promoter is in compliance with the regulations set by the US FDA and the EU MDD (Medical Devices Directive). The classification of the promoters products range from FDA and MDD Class I to Class III.

For the wireless component of the Hearing Aids, the promoter approves all of its equipment for the different geographies. FCC (USA), Gost (Russia), European certificate, etc. are some of the certification entities that approve the use of the wireless devices.

Regarding the electromagnetic frequencies used by the wireless devices, the measurement of SAR (specific absorption rates) is performed by the promoter for all its marketed hearing devices. Electromagnetic radiation is however under continuous study by international organizations.

The project, if successful, is expected to lead to significant social benefits resulting from new and improved hearing aid technologies to alleviate the problems linked to a hearing impairment. As hearing aids get more integrated into the use of smart phones and music devices, the use of these devices will become less associated to a handicap.

No significant environment or social issues were noted at the time of project completion. The Company now falls under MDR (European Medical Devices Regulation).

### Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

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