

Luxembourg, 30 September 2020

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: MATRIX PACK (EGFF)
Project Number: 2020-0461
Country: Greece
Project Description: The project will consist of financing (i) new machines for the production of paper straws (ii) ancillary equipment and (iii) related RDI activities.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project consists of installation and operation of equipment dedicated to manufacturing paper straws from renewable resources, i.e. paper. The project will take place inside existing industrial facilities. As the Promoter's activity was characterized as "Low Disturbance/Impact" by the responsible authorities, the project will not require EIA. The project is fully compliant with the applicable Greek National Environmental Legislation; the company has to follow the Standard Environmental Commitments, which are issued during the approval process of the Operating Permit.

The project will result in the production and commercialization of paper straws using renewable resources, and replacing the single-use plastic straws. The project follows overall Promoter's strategic shift towards sustainable and renewable products.

The project is fully aligned with the 2018 EU Plastic strategy and the EU Directive 2019/904, whose main scope is to prevent and reduce the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, and specifically the marine environment. More specific, the Directive prohibits retailers and restaurants from providing customers among other with single-use carryout bags, plastic straws, stirrers or cups. About 50% of identifiable plastic litter are single use products (e.g. straws, packets, cotton bud stick, so on).

The raw material to be used for the production of paper straws is paper produced from virgin pulp, manufactured exclusively from biomass sourced from sustainable forests (FSC / PEFC

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Carbon Footprint Exercise, as defined in the EIB Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

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compliant). Paper produced from recycled materials does not meet the food safety standards and therefore cannot be used in these applications.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Promoter has in place ISO 22000 food safety management system, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and British Retail Consortium (BRC) certification, alongside compostability or biodegradability certificates for their renewable materials.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is considered acceptable for financing by the Bank from environmental and social perspectives subject to the following E&S conditions that will be included in the financial contract.

Undertaking:

All paper supplied to the projects should come from biomass subject to a transparent, credible chain of custody, and forest management and chain of custody practices in feedstock sourcing areas shall be certified by internationally accredited forest certification schemes (e.g. FSC/PEFC) or should be aligned with the same standards and principles to be certifiable.