



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 20/11/2020

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	HALDOR TOPSOE CATALYSTS RDI ()
Project Number:	2017-0312
Country:	DENMARK
Project Description:	RDI investments in catalysts and the related design and engineering of process plants in the period 2017-2019.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

No significant environment or social issues were noted. The project concerned investments in research and development that were carried out in existing facilities without changing their already authorised scope. Overall, the project has been assessed as acceptable having no adverse impact on the environment.

Most of the project R&D activities were almost exclusively focusing on the development of energy efficient catalysis technologies and environmentally-friendly applications and processes. Consequently, the products and processes resulting from the project contribute to climate mitigation and to the reduction of pollutant emission in the atmosphere.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

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

The R&D activities of the project have significant impacts in different industries through increased cost effectiveness, increased environmental sustainability (lower environmental impacts) and increased energy and resource efficiency (see a few examples below).

During the project implementation period, the promoter increased the R&D focus on the development of small-scale chemical production, based on modular plants, to produce renewable fuels for which local processing is the appropriate solution. The promoter also developed new bio-based platforms enabling the production of oxygen containing chemicals from biomass at a cost, which is competitive with fossil-based production. This technology supports new product offering for the broader chemicals market, particularly for MEG (Monoethylene glycol) - a key component of PET plastic, MHA (Mercaptohexanoic acid) and other amino acids, MVG (Methyl vinyl glycolate), ethanol amine, glycolic acid and PGA (Polyglycolic acid).

The promoter's annual report (2019) provides another few examples of recently launched demo-plants and products that give good illustrations of the positive contribution of the promoter's R&D activities to society.