

Luxembourg, 25 November 2021

## Public Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	CARBIO PET BIO-RECYCLING DEMO PLANT (EDP)
Project Number:	2020-0648
Country:	FRANCE
Project Description:	The project consists of the construction and operation of an enzymatic recycling demonstration plant for PET plastics and polyester fibers and a production unit of biodegradable additives for bioplastics. The project is located in France.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The project consists of the construction and operation of a demonstration-scale enzymatic polyethylene terephthalate (PET) recycling plant with a nominal capacity of 6,000 tonnes/year and a biodegradation production unit with 4,000 tonnes/year capacity. The biological enzymatic depolymerization process transforms post-consumer PET plastic and polyester fibers to their original monomers. The monomers are identical to the virgin monomers and can be repolymerized to produce new plastics/textiles with the same qualities. The biodegradation process involves the integration of biological catalysts in plastics, thus rendering them biodegradable in a non-industrial environment. In fact, it emits three times less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The facilities will result in strengthening the recycling rate in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region / France region. The PET facility will be located on an existing authorized industrial site (Michelin).

The project will not fall under Annex I of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU in line with relevant EU legislation. Thus, the project will fall under Annex II of this Directive. However, according to the Art. 122-2 of the French "*Code de l'Environnement*", due to its size, the plant is not subject to impact studies and is not subject to ICPE declaration (*Installations classées pour la protection de l'environnement*). In other words, it is not considered having effects on the environment that would be significant enough to justify a mandatory EIA.

All the facilities are Paris Aligned according to Bank's definition<sup>1</sup>.

The project is in line with the so-called Waste Hierarchy principle as defined in the European legislation, in particular the Circular Economy Package. This package contains - among

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<sup>1</sup> Solid Waste sector: Facilities for material recovery from separately collected waste

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others - the Landfill Directive 2018/850 (Directive 1999/31/EC amended); the Waste Framework Directive 2018/851 (Directive 2008/98/EC amended). Furthermore, the project is in line with the Regional Waste Master Plan for the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region approved by the Public Authorities in 2019<sup>2</sup>. The region has set to implement a green deal to improve environmental protection and regenerate/reclaim healthy ecosystems at the regional level.

The promoter is expected to have adequate expertise in the implementation and operation of similar facilities. Its environmental and social management capacity is deemed satisfactory.

The project's main environmental impacts are noise, odour and airborne pollutants during the construction works and operation of the plants. As required by the Public Authorities, these risks will be addressed through specific mitigation measures and more generally through the compulsory use of the "Best Available Technique" (BAT) for equipment. Finally, Industry-standard monitoring and control of pollutant missions must take place.

The remaining environmental Impacts are expected to be minor, thus acceptable to the Bank. France, as an EU Member State, has harmonized its environmental legislation with the relevant EU Directives: EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the 2011/92/EU, and Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Birds Directive 2009/147/EC. The project will not be located inside or near a Natura 2000 area and there will be no impacts on this area.

### **Social Assessment**

All these treatment facilities will be located in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region / France. The social assessment is considered to be positive in terms of jobs creation, environmental improvements and reduction of risks to public health.

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

The Promoter has been requested to ensure compliance with national and European environmental legislation, notably to facilitate public access to environmental information and guarantee public consultation during the environmental decision process, where relevant, in accordance with the Aarhus Convention.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The promoter's environmental and social management capacities are considered as adequate.

The promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including SEA (2001/42/EC), EIA (2014/52/EU amending 2011/92/EU), Habitats (92/43/EEC) and Birds (2009/147/EC) Directives, the Circular Economy package and the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) as transposed into national law.

The project's main environmental impacts are noise, odour and airborne pollutants during operation of the facilities. However, the project components are expected to have minor residual environmental impacts and are acceptable in environmental and social terms for the Bank financing. The capacity of the promoter to manage the environmental and social issues is deemed good.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.auvergnerhonealpes.fr/actualite/783/23-prevention-et-gestion-des-dechets-un-plan-ambitieux-pour-une-region-durable.htm>



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The project is driven by the requirement to ensure compliance with relevant EU environmental directives and it will also contribute towards improved climate resilience and emissions reductions.

Therefore, this operation is acceptable for the Bank in environmental and social terms.