



Luxembourg, 07 September 2022

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	ADVANCED HEATING SYSTEMS
Project Number:	2021-0505
Country:	Germany, France, Slovakia, Spain
Project Description:	The project consists of research, development and innovation (RDI) investments related to environmental friendly heating technologies during the 2022-2024 period.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

- The project concerns selected activities from the promoter's R&D programme in the field of low-carbon Space and Water heating technologies, with areas of focus the development of Heat Pump systems, and Gas boilers using hydrogen either as a share of the fuel mix or exclusively; the overriding objectives across developments is development of new functionality, energy efficiency and performance efficiency.
- RDI activities are not classified under the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU; as the project activities will be carried out in existing facilities without changing their already authorised scope, the EIB assesses that for this project significant negative effects are not likely.
- The project's outcomes contribute to improve the sustainability of the sector through reduction of CO₂ emissions (lower carbon and electric technologies), as well through the reduction of pollution from heating systems. As such, a large part of it contributes to the Banks CA and ES objectives as defined in the relevant EIB guidelines
- All activities are aligned with the Bank's CBR referring specifically to the (a) "Heating and cooling technologies using electricity, ... and low-carbon fuels,"; (b) Gas boilers ... complying with minimum energy efficiency criteria, defined as A-rated or with efficiency of 90% or better; and (c) RDI on Low-carbon technology and products, energy and resource efficiency,

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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Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Vaillant Group has established a sustainability programme with four areas of focus: Climate neutral company, Positive social impact, Employer of choice and Sustainable, climate friendly products and services. Through this programme it has set the goal of halving CO2 emission (Scope 1 & 2) directly attributable to the company by 2030, compared to the 2018 levels. Since 2020 the company has been offsetting its emissions mainly through afforestation projects, and has been CO2 neutral since 2020.

The headquarters as well as all production plants have received ISO 14001 certification as well as ISO 45001 certification covering Occupational Health and safety processes, and rules for sustainable product development have been integrated in the development processes. Finally, environmental as well as social criteria are part of the general purchasing terms and suppliers above 1m€ turnover/year (500k€ in risk countries) are in addition requested to sign the company's Supplier Code of Conduct.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project concerns research and development activities that are not specifically listed in the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, which will be carried out in existing facilities without changing their already authorised scope. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is therefore not required by EIA Directive.

The developed products will have positive sustainability impact through the reduction of CO2 and pollutant emissions.

Overall, the project is considered acceptable for the Bank financing with no negative residual impacts