



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 20th December 2022

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)¹

Overview

Project Name:	PURATOS RDI PROGRAMME
Project Number:	2019 0110
Country:	Belgium
Project Description:	The project financed Puratos' research, development and innovation (RDI) programme in food ingredients and innovative products for capital expenditure in 2019-2021, mainly carried out in Belgium.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

Puratos is a family-owned company, active in the food ingredients sector offering a full range of innovative products and raw materials for the bakery, patisserie, and chocolate sectors. The Promoter has a proven record of accomplishment in its core business development and innovation projects. Its research and technology centres are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and technology and staffed with highly qualified professionals.

The project financed Puratos' research, development and innovation (RDI) programme in food ingredients – including the development of functional fermentation, non-GMO enzymes and process technologies - that was carried out in existing facilities, already authorised. Research activities included innovative resource efficient products for lower food waste, energy and water consumption. The Promoter is ISO 14001 (Environment) certified and is regularly inspected for compliance with the relevant environmental and health authorities².

The following condition needed to be satisfied by the Promoter, as undertaking:

The Promoter shall inform the Bank about any change/modification/extension of the project that could trigger an EIA-IED permitting process, following EIA directive 2014/52/EU, amending 2011/92/EU and IED directive 2010/75/EU and submit the relevant assessment reports to the Bank.

There were no reported changes/modifications/extensions of the project, so the undertaking was complied with.

Puratos' suppliers adhere to the company's Ethical Trade Charter that includes the development of sustainable and ethical value chains. In this way, suppliers commit to: providing good working conditions (contracts, health and safety, equal opportunities); opposing slavery, all forms of forced labour and all other forms of abuse and exploitation; maintaining an open

¹ The template is for ILs and FLs

² The company is also certified ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems), IFS (International Featured Standards), BRC (British Retail Consortium), and OHSAS (Occupational Health and Safety).



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 dialogue with the local authorities, in particular those in charge of environmental conservation. There were no changes to the supplier selection procedures during the project.

With the aim of mitigating its supply chain risks, the Promoter has subscribed to a series of specific sustainability certification schemes: since 2010, Puratos is a member of the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), which is the most broadly recognised palm oil certification system); in 2012 Puratos became a founding member of the Belgian Alliance for Sustainable Palm Oil (BASP)³; in 2018, Puratos became a member of Beyond Chocolate⁴, a partnership sponsored by the Belgium Government that aims for sustainable Belgian chocolate.

Long-term objectives include being carbon neutral on direct operations (2025) and having a balanced and sustainable water management by reducing water consumption and improving the quality of water discharge (2030). Clear performance indicators for energy efficiency, water savings and waste reduction are set and periodically monitored by the Promoter:

- In 2021, Puratos achieved its energy efficiency target with an 11% reduction in MWh per ton produced compared to 2020. This is also a reduction of 7% compared to 2019 (before Covid). This represents annual emission savings of 6,700 tCO₂e.
- In 2021, Puratos reduced its water consumption per tonne produced by 8.7% compared to 2020. This is also a 5% reduction from 2019 (pre-Covid). This represents water savings of 180,000 ML per year.
- Puratos focused in 2021 on its 5 Belgian subsidiaries, representing ± 20% of the volume of packaging supplied by Puratos. At the end of 2021, 89% of this volume was ready to be recycled or reused. In 2022, this objective will be extended to Puratos' top 10 countries in terms of volumes packaging, with the aim of reaching 90% recyclable or reusable by the end of the year. The 2023 - 2025 objectives will be based on this approach.

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. The project can be classified as having a positive impact for the society, by virtue of the potential health and social benefits delivered by the RDI activities.

³ <https://www.befair.be/en/content/belgian-alliance-sustainable-palm-oil>

⁴ https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/newsroom/news/2018/beyond_chocolate