Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: IN OVO (IEU GT)
Project Number: 2022-0702
Country: Netherlands
Project Description: The project consists of the (i) RDI activities related to development of processes, equipment and technology for the poultry sector, focusing mainly on the health and performance of eggs and chicks during incubation and breeding, and (ii) the commercialization of their innovative equipment to the early adopters.

EIA required: no
Invest EU sustainability proofing required yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: no
(details for projects included are provided in section: “EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise”)

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The RDI activities will be carried out within existing facilities located in the Netherlands. They do not imply the construction of new, nor the modification of the existing RDI facilities and do therefore not fall under the provisions of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU and the respective national legislation that transposes these directives.

It is anticipated that the project will not have any adverse effects on the climate and environment. Moreover, the RDI activities included in the project are expected to have positive outcomes in terms of social and environmental improvements including on enabling animal welfare, lower energy consumption at hatcheries, and reduced use of resources.

For every female chicken that is bred to lay eggs, one male chicken exists. Every year, 6.5 billion male baby chickens are killed worldwide. The Promoter addresses this animal welfare issue with their innovative technology, which can detect male eggs by analytically screening for a biomarker with mass spectrometry. Removing the male eggs on day 9 prevents these eggs from hatching and any further need for either culling the birds or growing them inefficiently. Removing the male eggs is also freeing space in the incubators, to be used for female eggs.

1 The information contained in the document reflects the requirement related to the environmental, social and climate information to be provided to Investment Committee as required by the Invest EU Regulation and it represents the equivalent of the information required in the template of the InvestEU sustainability proofing summary
2 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.
which leads to an optimization of the use of the incubators, and in overall energy saving at hatchery level – thus contributing to the Climate Mitigation.

The technology replaces completely the killing of the male chicks, while it allows the eggs containing males to be processed further in e.g. feed ingredients. This represents a business model shift towards circularity, by replacing a waste-generating business model with a circular one.

The project is aligned with the Paris Agreement and with the Bank’s Climate Bank Roadmap, in particular by supporting energy and resource efficiency, and circular business models.

Social Assessment

The project does not have any negative social impacts.

The project is located on existing operating sites with established processes and procedures, to ensure that they perform their duties concerning health and safety, the environment and ensuring the Project delivers on its commitments to climate and social aspects.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Not applicable.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

Conclusions and Recommendations

Sustainability proofing conclusion: the project is carried out in compliance with applicable national and EU environmental and social legislation. Based on the environment, climate and social (ECS) information and based on the review of the likely significant ECS risks and impacts and the mitigation measures and management systems in place, the project is deemed to have low residual ECS risks and impacts. No further sustainability proofing is required.

The project is acceptable for EIB financing in environmental and social terms.