



Luxembourg, 25/09/2023

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet¹

Overview

Project Name:	SKYDWELLER (I-EU TI)
Project Number:	2022-0902
Country:	Italy and Spain
Project Description:	Skydweller is a Spanish SME developing a solar-powered aircraft mostly for applications in defence, surveillance as well as potentially for telecommunications and geospatial mapping. The project will support the R&D activities, operating and capital expenditures of the company, focused on the pre-serial production of aircrafts and the integration capability of payloads according to client specifications.
EIA required:	no
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ² :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns research and development activities on the solar-fuelled unmanned aerial vehicle and capital expenditures in preparation of the pre-serial production of the aircraft.

The assembly and manufacturing operations of low volumes of the aircraft will take place in existing facilities already approved for the same purposes and are not expected to generate significant carbon emissions. The aircraft is powered by PV solar cells that are integrated in the wings, so its operation does not generate any carbon emissions either.

The research and development (R&D) activities supported by the project are not included in any of the Annexes of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU. Therefore, the project is not subject to an EIA.

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.



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The solar-fuelled unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) may contribute positively to the environment if the technology replaces incumbent solutions powered by fossil fuels and with lower energy efficiency.

Climate Assessment

The project is fully aligned with the Paris Agreement on climate change according to the Bank's definition (Annex 2 Table B Industry and Table C Transport of EIB's climate bank roadmap - CBR).

As a corporate, the counterpart is in scope but screened out of the PATH Framework because it is neither a high emitting nor a highly vulnerable entity.

Social Assessment

The project is not expected to present any significant labour risks nor health and safety risks with the overall social risk being low. The promoter's activities generate a positive employment impact in the Madrid capital region as well as in less developed regions of Castilla-La-Mancha, Spain and Puglia, Italy.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The promoter's R&D, software development and operational activities financed under the investment plan are carried out in existing facilities already approved for the same purposes and are not expected to generate significant carbon emissions. The assembly of UAVs will also take place in existing facilities of a key partner of the promoter and, due to the lower volume of production, is not expected to have a significant environmental impact.

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 management systems in place, the project is deemed to have negligible residual ECS risks and impacts. No further sustainability proofing is required.

Considering the above, the investment is acceptable for EIB financing in Environmental, Climate and Social terms.