



Luxembourg, 15/12/2023

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name:	New Aromatics Technology Development
Project Number:	2018-0679
Country:	Spain
Project Description:	The project upgraded an existing Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB) production plant from the conventional liquid acid based catalyst system to the promoter's proprietary solid bed catalyst technology resulting in a significant improvement in terms of environmental footprint of LAB production. The project was complemented by the promoter's R&D programme in the field of sustainable fuels and chemicals.

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

This type of project is covered by Annex II of the EIA Directive. The Competent Authorities provided a screening decision stating that an EIA was not required, due to the non-substantial changes in terms of environmental impact: the project replaced an older, less efficient, and more polluting production unit located within the boundaries of the already authorised petrochemical site.

Cepsa's commitment to innovation, safety and sustainability was strengthened with this project, which resulted in the first European chemical factory to use the Detal technology; a safer, more efficient, and sustainable process that optimises the efficient use of raw materials and electricity while reducing emissions and waste generation (1100 tonnes of waste reduced per year). Technological developments reduced annual water consumption by 80,000 m<sup>3</sup> while boosting the quality and versatility of LAB (one of the main raw material used to manufacture biodegradable detergents). Furthermore, the plant is powered entirely by renewable energy supplied by Cepsa's Gas and Electricity division.

The project earned the 2020 Environmental Award in the Process category from the Spanish Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge (MITERD).

In addition to project implementation, the promoter was contractually requested to develop and publish a long-term decarbonisation strategy, including measurable initiatives to increase the company's attempts to convert to alternative/renewable-based production. This contractual undertaking was reached with the release of CEPESA's 2030 Positive Motion Strategy, which includes a Paris-aligned decarbonisation target and plan backed by a capital investment target of more than EUR 900 million - further information is available in CEPESA's Sustainability Plan, to be consulted online via [Sustainability plan | Cepsa](#).

### Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion that, based on reports from the promoter verified with public information (annual reports and various publications), the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.