

Environmental and Social Data Sheet¹

Overview

Project Name:	CHROMAFORA PFAS REMOVAL (IEU SIW VD)
Project Number:	2023-0646
Country:	Several
Project Description:	The project will finance the promoter's research and development related to Per and Poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) removal technology and the deployment of water treatment installations 'as a service' at end-user premises.
EIA required:	no
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise²:	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Chromafora AB ("Chromafora" or the "Promoter") is a privately-owned innovative cleantech company that uses patented technologies to remove heavy metals and Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from polluted water. It was founded in Sweden in 2010 and focuses on chemical research.

PFAS are considered as contaminants of emerging concern. Technical studies have demonstrated the widespread presence of PFAS in soil, groundwater and surface water across Europe. PFAS are highly persistent and mobile, are known to contaminate drinking water and food sources, and accumulate over time in the environment, animals, and humans, causing significant adverse health effects. A common route for PFAS to enter the environment is through products that degrade in landfills, contaminating the landfill leachate that then seeping into groundwater.

The project will finance the latest stages of the Promoter's research and development (RDI) as well as the deployment of the water treatment equipment to remove PFAS in several facilities (mainly landfills) mainly in EU countries (e.g. Sweden, Belgium).

The project activities i.e. R+D and deployment of equipment have not any adverse impact to the environment, as they relate to activities already performed in existing facilities like landfills without changing their initial authorised scope. Therefore the project does not require any specific environmental permit and the project activities fall neither under Annex I nor under Annex II of the EU EIA Directive 2011/52/EU amended by Directive 2014/52/EU.

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.



The project has substantial long term environmental benefits through the reduction of the PFAS pollution in the water bodies, mainly in the groundwater, within the proximity of the facilities where the equipment will be installed. The project helps significantly to achieve the goals of the Drinking Water Directive (EU) 2020/2184 on the quality of water intended for human consumption, which already includes a limitation on PFAS contamination. The project is also in line with the EU's zero pollution action plan³.

Climate Assessment

The project has been assessed as not climate sensitive which means it does not impact or address any physical climate risks identified. The project is considered to be "Paris Aligned", both against low carbon and resilience goals, and it is in line with the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025.

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The counterparty Chromafora AB is in scope and screened out of the PATH framework, because it is not considered high emitting or high vulnerability.

Social Assessment

The project has significant social benefits such as the improvement of public health through the reduction of the PFAS pollution in the water bodies. The equipment is installed in a container that is transported to the sites, therefore there are no major civil works required and thus no temporary nuisance caused.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The project does not require any specific environmental permit therefore no public consultation and stakeholder engagement procedures are needed.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

N/A

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project does not have any negative environment, climate or social impacts. The project will help removing PFAS from heavily contaminated water in existing facilities (mainly landfills) across the EU.

Sustainability proofing conclusion: The project is carried out in compliance with applicable national and EU environmental and social legislation. Based on the information provided by the Promoter, the project environmental, climate and social (ECS) risks and impacts are expected to be low, and no mitigation measures are required. Therefore no further sustainability proofing is required.

There are no conditions related to environmental and/or social aspects of the project.

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

³ [Zero Pollution Action Plan - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://european-council.europa.eu/media/en/press-communications/infographic/infographic-zero-pollution-action-plan-2020-2025.pdf)