

Luxembourg, 18 December 2024

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet¹

Overview

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| Project Name: | FAIRMAT CARBON FIBER RECYCLING (IEU GT2) |
| Project Number: | 2024-0797 |
| Country: | France |
| Project Description: | The project supports the growth and capacity expansion of an innovative company in the area of carbon fibre recycling. The investments concern the development of materials and process technologies, advanced automation and robotics, and related facilities and equipment for the manufacturing scale-up. The project will be mainly carried out in the area of Nantes (France) during the period 2025-2028. |

EIA required: no

Invest EU sustainability proofing required yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise²: no

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The promoter is dedicated to manufacturing a Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer (CFRP) with better environmental performance through recycling CFRP that would otherwise be treated as waste, aiming to offer an alternative to incineration. Existing CFRP manufacturing generates excess waste leading to the accumulation of approximately 62,000 tonnes of unused end-of-life carbon fibre waste annually, primarily originating from the aircraft and wind energy sectors. The solutions resulting from this project are expected to provide alternative and more sustainable recycling methods to deal with the large quantities of scrap carbon fibre, of which only a small fraction is currently recycled, from existing manufacturing methods. The project activities do not fall under the Annexes I or II of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU.

Climate Assessment

Climate change mitigation

The primary environmental impact of CFRP occurs in the manufacturing of carbon fibers, contributing significantly (43–84%) to CFRP's overall climate change impact. The CO₂ emissions are below the Carbon Footprint threshold, and the promoter's mechanical recycling

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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process will result in CO₂ emission savings in the range of 90% to 95% when compared with virgin CFRP material.

Climate change adaptation

Given the location, and the sector of activity, the climate risk is assessed as low.

Paris Alignment of projects

The project to be financed by the Bank concerns the promoter's investment in the field of mechanically recycled materials supporting circular economy approaches and as such is aligned with the Bank's Climate Bank Roadmap.

Social Assessment

The promoter is expected to comply with all applicable labour and social legislation. With the appropriate management systems in place the social risks and impacts are considered to be low. No social risks or issues are expected during the project's implementation.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

This promoter's approach emphasizes energy efficiency and addresses challenges associated with carbon waste by providing a sustainable alternative to landfills, contributing to the conservation of landscapes, soil, and water quality.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is not expected to have any significant negative impact either on the natural and human environment or on public health. The outcomes of the project are expected to make a strong contribution to environmental sustainability by keeping these materials within the economy through recycling, reducing waste and generating positive externalities. The promoter's solution prevents CO₂ emissions by mitigating the need to produce virgin material. Current disposal practices mean much of the energy, resources and value embodied in CFRP materials is lost, generating vast amounts of waste in the process.

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 made available by the promoter and the 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 therefore acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms.