



Luxembourg, 29/11/2024

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)¹

Overview

Project Name: MEDIA DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
 Project Number: 2021-0431
 Country: Belgium, Netherlands
 Project Description: *To finance the RDI programme and the digitalisation of the company for the years 2021 to 2023*

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project concerned RDI and digitalisation activities that were carried out in already existing and authorised R&D facilities. The project does not fall under any of Annexes of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU amended by Directive 2014/52/EU and therefore did not require a mandatory screening or EIA Report.

No significant environment or social issues were noted.

The Promoter moved one of the last remaining physical parts of their server landscape to the cloud. An environmental side effect of this move is that the cloud environment there runs largely on sustainability energy and continuously optimizes for energy efficiency - thus lowering CO2-emissions.

The digital transformation project enabled an attractive and economically sustainable product offering with a positive environmental effect. The emissions of digital distribution are lower than the emissions connected with the printing and distribution of the physical magazines - given the energy-intensive nature of paper production on one hand and the renewable energy used by cloud data centers on the other.

The Promoter leveraged its knowledge, capacity, resources, and media to support the younger generation, recognizing that motivated, engaged, and well-supported young people have the power to shape the future. To that end, the Promoter put in place several initiatives, including support of young individuals who are trained in IT-related fields and the assistance to those who struggle with reading or are still in the learning process, among other things.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter, during Implementation that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.

¹ The template is for ILs and FLs