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Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: USOUND (EGF VD)
Project Number: 2021-0236
Country: Austria
Project Description: USound is an Austrian company active in the development of MEMS (Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems) technologies for audio applications. The fabless company offers its silicon-based speakers to be integrated into a variety of personal electronic devices, enabling their miniaturization and lower power consumption.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) activities and manufacturing of MEMS are not listed in the annexes of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU amended by Directive 2014/52 EU; therefore, the project is not subject to the EIA Directive. The project's overall environmental impact is deemed limited.

The project is aligned with the Paris Agreement framework and in line with EIB's Climate Bank Roadmap (CBR) as it concerns eligible investments in RDI and manufacturing not mentioned in the excluded sections of the roadmap.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The company follows the main industry with regard to social and environmental policies, including REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and ROHS 2011/65/EU, as well as conflict minerals (Regulation (EU) 2017/821). The company is working on ISO 9001 and ISO14001 certifications with horizon 2022.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In the light of the above, the project acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms.

¹ 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.