

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	TECHEU ESSITY HEALTH & HYGIENE PRODUCTS RDI II
Project Number:	2025-0169
Country:	Sweden, Germany, France
Project Description:	The project will finance expenditures in Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) at the promoter's R&D centres in Sweden, Germany and France in the period 2025-2028.
E&S Risk categorisation	Low

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: no

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

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The RDI activities will be carried out within existing RDI facilities located in EU countries (mainly in Sweden, Germany, France). They do not imply the construction of new, nor the modification of the existing RDI facilities and do therefore not fall under the provisions of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU and the respective national legislation that transposes these directives. All research facilities hold valid operation permits approved by the competent authorities in each country.

It is anticipated that the project will not have any adverse effects on the climate and environment. Moreover, a significant part of the RDI activities included in the project is expected to have positive RDI outcomes in terms of social and environmental improvements including, on enabling the development of sustainable hygiene and tissue products with improved performance, lower energy consumption, reduced use of resources and increased circularity during the manufacturing stages.

The project is expected to contribute to the Bank's climate action and environmental sustainability objective, especially circular economy. The company's research focuses on reducing the carbon footprint in major business areas especially through improved design and materials, more resource and energy efficient production, logistics and supply chains. Various ways to reduce waste from products after use are subject to current research and development. A number of RDI projects will be dedicated to circular packing solutions.

The project is aligned with the Paris Agreement and with the Bank's Climate Bank Roadmap, in particular by supporting low-carbon technology and products, energy and resource efficiency, and circular business models.

<sup>1</sup> 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.



## **EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework**

The counterparty Essity AB (publ) is assessed as meeting the Bank's PATH low carbon and resilience requirements.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

Environmental, health and safety aspects are well integrated into the company's management through certification under the international OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series) and ISO 45001 standard, to ensure that uniform processes are deployed across the Group and that the units continuously improve their workplace health and safety. The promoter uses ISO 14001 and EMAS (the EU's system for environmental management and auditing) as environmental management systems. A large number of production units are certified according to ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHS 18001 and/or EMAS, and the promoter will continue its programme for the remaining plants as further acquisitions are made. The promoter is committed to achieving 100% responsible sourced fibres, in fact already now 99% of its raw materials from wood based fresh fibre in its products and packaging is FSC® or PEFC™ certified.

Gender: The project contributes significantly to advance gender equality and women's empowerment by serving women's unique needs. Feminine care is part of the Promoter's strategy and focus, and a relevant business unit (9% of total revenue). Promoter's RDI programmes related to feminine care are initiated and managed with the purpose of responding to identified needs or feedback received by primary users, therefore taking into consideration user experience, product design and functionality. A large part of Essity's feminine care approach is to make products that better fit women requirements, while also researching and surveying their experiences, opinions and body perceptions. Through small focus groups, opinion research and consumer panel research and solid quantitative analysis, the promoter generates products ideas to fill identified gaps or inefficiencies in its product offer.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The project is acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms.