



Luxembourg, 27.02.26

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	AVINTES NATURAL RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
Project Number:	2025-0377
Country:	Portugal
Project Description:	The Promoter will implement a five-year investment plan targeting several actions to improve competitiveness through processes modernization and optimization in natural resources consumption, at its Avintes (Portugal) facilities.
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	yes
E&S Risk categorisation	low
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The promoter five-year investment programme will improve the competitiveness and environmental footprint of the company through actions in logistics (warehouses), process modernization and energy efficiency and electricity self-production in the central facilities for stocking and wine processing and bottling. The proposed loan will also support digitalisation and improvement of working conditions in the central offices. The project will be implemented in the existing process site located in Avintes (Oporto, Portugal).

The sub-projects to be financed will be consistent with the Main Policy Priority Areas of the Sustainable Infrastructure Window (InvestEU-SIW), specifically developing renewable energy and sustainable bioeconomy.

The Project consists mainly of refurbishment, expansion and implementation of new and existing facilities (warehouses, offices, wine tanks, laboratories and wineries), as well as auxiliary technical buildings, photovoltaic production, internal roads and the replacement and acquisition of new bottling and packaging lines. Smaller components of the business plan to be financed include also IT deployment and recurrent CAPEX replacement (instrumentation, equipment, machinery).

The project and sub-components do not fall under the scope of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU Annexes I and II (amending Directive 2011/92/EU). The project main sub-components (industrial processes buildings connection, offices and expansion of cellars) have the working permits in place.

A landscape project was submitted to the Municipality for approval, since part of the land plot owned by the Promoter was qualified as green zone. The landscape project was part of the

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.



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Municipal Public Interest Project, where all the sub-components of the investment are included. The integral project was approved by the executive municipal committee and the municipal assembly (Avintes-Oporto-Portugal). Building permits followed, as well as tree cut/ replacement permits by the ICNF (Forestry Institute for Nature Conservation).

All activities included in the project are located outside any designated nature conservation area. There are no environmentally sensitive zones affected by the project.

All activities of the project are developed in compliance with the respective national regulatory requirements and international standards for emissions abatement, wastewater effluent quality, waste management, energy efficiency and relevant environmental directives and agricultural acquis. The project will employ modern, efficient technologies, with low energy and resource consumptions and low level of emissions to the environment. See conditions below on best available techniques for the wine industry.

The project is Paris-aligned against both low carbon and climate resilience goals. It qualifies for InvestEU Focus area 5: Striving for greener industry of the Climate Bank Roadmap and among the supported activities in the EIB Climate Bank Roadmap, Table E: Reducing wastage and maximising resource efficiency along the whole value chain from farm to fork.

The implementation of the actions within the project are expected to generate low negative impacts during construction, mainly equipment replacement and new lines acquisition, as well as building activities (warehouses). Significant positive impacts are expected during operation, mainly GHG emissions reduction from transport, fossil fuels use and less electricity consumption from the grid, with renewable energy self-production.

Climate Assessment

The project will result in a significant reduction of GHG emissions, following the path committed by the company until 2027. GHG absolute and relative emissions have been calculated but fall below the thresholds defined for the Carbon Footprint Exercise (CFE). The Project is coherent with the decarbonization path committed by the Company (-50% GHG emissions Scope 1, 2 and 3 from 2021 to 2027). Within the geographical scope of the Project, relative emissions have been assessed at -0.8 kt CO₂eq/y and final absolute emissions at +1.2 kt CO₂eq/y. The Mitigation components will be linked to the reduction of fossil fuel (natural gas) and the generation on site of electricity for own consumption and electricity. At a minor scale, reductions will come from reduced transit between facilities, both in heavy trucks and service vehicles

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The Promoter is in scope and screened out of the PATH framework (Promoter not engaged in high-emitting activities and physical climate risk below 3.0).

Social Assessment

The Promoter promotes best working conditions, including inclusion, gender equality plan, health and safety policies. The commitments are extended to suppliers and service providers, through a Code of Conduct. The Promoter maintains strong relationships with local farmers and producers, favouring employment in rural areas and preventing depopulation.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The project and sub-components do not fall under the scope of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU Annexes I and II (amending Directive 2011/92/EU), no public consultation or stakeholder engagement is required.



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Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The company has a strong governance and operates with several relevant certifications: ISO 9001:2015-quality management system, construction certification LEED (see undertakings), sustainable forest management (manufacturing of oak barrels) and Environmental Management System certified according to the ISO 14001:2015 standard. The Promoter was included in 2023 in the International Wineries for Climate Action (IWCA). Other relevant certifications are the International Featured Standard (IFS), a Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) and the British Retail Consortium (BRC) Global Standards specific for food safety, quality and operational criteria for food producers and suppliers.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project will result in overall positive environmental and social effects.

The following conditions will be set at contractual stage:

1. Inform the Bank about any change/modification/extension of the project that could trigger an EIA permitting process, following EIA directive 2011/92/EU amended by 2014/52/EU and IED directive 2010/75/EU.
2. The investments in buildings (industrial, offices and enology), will be eligible only if compliant with the revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU/2024/1275) and/ or LEED certification and/ or ISO 50 001 procedure for energy efficiency.
3. The Promoter engages in using best available technologies in all eligible actions, as per BAT reference document for the Food, Drink and Milk industries.

Considering the conditions on the project, the capacity of the Promoter and the systems in place to manage environmental and social impacts and issues are adequate. The project is acceptable for the Bank in Environmental, Climate and Social terms.