

Luxembourg, 20-05-2026

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	<i>TECHEU FRENCH SEEDS RDI PHASE II</i>
Project Number:	<i>2025-0248</i>
Country:	<i>France (69%), the Netherlands (12%), Spain (8%), Germany (5%) and other EU countries (6%).</i>
Project Description:	<i>The proposed operation is to fund the promoter's RDI (Research, Development and Innovation) activities related to the creation, development, registration and commercialisation of new field crop and vegetable seed varieties for their use in agriculture. The project is the follow-up of the French Seeds R&D project (2018-0895).</i>
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	yes
E&S Risk categorisation	low
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise:	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

The operation concerns the funding of the promoter's Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) activities related to the creation, development, registration and commercialisation of new field crop and vegetable seed varieties for their use in agriculture over the period of 4 years between 2026 and 2029. The Project is the follow-up of the French Seeds R&D project (2018-0895). The Project targets RDI activities taking place inside the EU.

Environmental Assessment

The RDI program will be implemented within the promoter's existing RDI facilities, which are primarily located in France, the Netherlands, Spain, and Germany, with limited activities in other EU countries. The planned activities will not entail the construction of new RDI centres nor any modification of the existing ones. Therefore, these activities do not fall under the provisions of Annex I nor Annex II of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU, amending Directive 2011/92/EU. All research facilities hold valid operation permits issued by the competent authorities in each respective country.

The Project is fully aligned with EU Adaptation Strategy. The RDI efforts will be dedicated to the creation, development and registration of climate-resilient varieties with characteristics such as drought, heat and pest resistance as well as varieties with higher nutrients uptake capacity or water-use efficiency. If successful, the project is expected to generate significant positive externalities, particularly in climate change adaptation, reduced environmental footprint of agricultural activities, and enhanced food security. The RDI programme is therefore considered 100% Climate Action adaptation. Hence, the Project is considered to be aligned with the Paris Agreement both against low carbon and resilience goals.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The scope of the Project is limited to EU-based RDI activities. The Project and related RDI expenditures will be financing exclusively the development of conventional seeds that will be sold predominantly within the EU. Certain varietal trials must be notified to the competent authorities to enable the variety's registration in the official catalogue.



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Activities related to Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) or those employing New Genomic Techniques (NGTs) are explicitly excluded from the Project. The downstream activities (i.e., the seeds multiplication and commercialisation activities) are also not part of the Project scope.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Condition for disbursement

- None

Undertakings

- Inform the Bank about any change/modification/extension of the Project that could trigger an EIA-IED permitting process, following EIA directive 2011/92/EU, amended 2014/52/EU and IE directive 2010/75/EU and submit the relevant assessment reports to the Bank.
- All activities related to Genetically Modified (GM) organisms and New Genomic Techniques (NGT)¹ shall at all times comply with applicable European Union legislation, including Directive 2001/18/EC on the deliberate release into the environment of GMOs, Directive 2009/41/EC on the contained use of GM micro-organisms, and any future EU regulations governing plants obtained by certain NGTs. The Promoter shall ensure that it holds all relevant authorisations, permits, and approvals required under EU and national laws to conduct such activities.

Sustainability proofing: The RDI project is not expected to generate negative environmental effects. Subject to the above-mentioned contractual conditions the Project will be carried out in compliance with applicable national and EU environmental and social legislation. No further sustainability proofing is required.

¹ As clarified by the CJEU Judgment in Case C-528/16, up until the new EU regulation on NGTs comes into force: <https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-07/cp180111en.pdf>