

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	Process Optimisation RDI
Project Number:	2012 0359
Country:	Germany
Project Description:	The project concerns research and development (R&D) activities for new and improved payment as well as cash management hardware and software solutions. Such solutions are utilised by the banking and retail sector to ensure efficient and secure payment transactions. The RDI activities will be carried out mainly in Germany during the financial years (ending 30 September) 2013 – 2015.
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

The project activities do not fall under Annexes I and II of the EU Directive 2011/92/EC, and are therefore not subject to mandatory Environmental Impact Assessments.

The proposed investments concern RDI activities for software and hardware development which will be carried out within existing own or rented office type of facilities already used for similar activities.

The promoter has good standards regarding sustainability and environmental management. In 2011 the environmental management system has been certified according to ISO 14001 and it reports its annual achievements according to the UN Global Reporting Initiative (Level A+ including partial external assurance). Such objectives are also embedded in the development process for new products. The promoter's innovative products are partly even seen as an industry benchmark with regard to energy consumption.

Therefore, the project has been classified as acceptable in environmental terms i.e. "acceptable with positive or neutral residual impacts".

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The promoter has been successfully certified in different areas among which there is also the environmental management system according to ISO 14001:2004 + Cur 1:2009. The most recent audit has been passed in 2011 and it is up for renewal in 2014.

The sustainability reporting is done according to the standard of the UN Global Reporting Initiative. The 2011/12 sustainability report has been confirmed to comply with the highest possible level (Level A+) including even partial external assurance.

The promoter also considers for the development of new products latest legal requirements including the WEEE directive regarding product recycling, the Energy using Products (EuP) directive and also the RoHS as well as the REACH directive on the use of hazardous substances and chemicals.

The promoter has internally developed principles regarding the development of environmentally friendly and recyclable products. The main criteria embedded in this principle are: energy efficiency, long lifetime, recyclability and environmental disposal. Such priorities are built into the development process for new products. As a result the previous product line has already set industry benchmarks in terms of energy consumption. The new product line generation is now about 30% more energy efficient compared to the previous one.

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100 000 tons CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20 000 tons CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.