

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	OLMIX (EGFF)
Project Number:	2016-0293
Country:	France
Project Description:	Financing the research activities of the Promoter, related to i) identifying novel active ingredients of the algae, ii) developing additional applications for existing products and iii) the optimization of the industrial process
EIA required:	No
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	No

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The operation concerns an investment program comprised of (i) for Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) activities, (ii) the construction of pig and chicken pilot facilities to test and develop breeding techniques without the recourse to antibiotics development programmes, and (iii) the modernisation of several existing production sites in France. While the projects are technically well identified, part of the modernisation investments still needs to be submitted to and authorised by the competent authorities.

The RDI program will be carried out within existing facilities in France, and will neither involve the construction of new, nor the modification of the existing RDI centres, nor other activities that might fall under the EIA Directives 2011/92/EC as amended.

The sub-project concerning new pilot facilities for pig and chicken breeding will fall under Annex II of EIA Directive 2011/92/EC as amended and the competent authorities will determine if an EIA will be required. The building permit will be issued and presented to the Bank, according to project phase and the facilities will have to respect the related European directive on Animal Welfare.

The existing production facilities incorporate the best available techniques in terms of environmental impact reduction. The sites concerned by the programme hold valid environmental and operation permits granted under the provisions of the EIA Directives and IED², for Installation Classified for the Protection of the Environment³.

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.

² Industrial Emissions Directive.

³ ICPE.

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The modernisation programme consists of the installation of new production capacities and pilot plant at three existing production sites in Brittany.

The modification of the existing production sites might fall under Annex II of EIA Directive 2011/92/EC as amended. A construction permit and a prefectural environmental authorization have already been obtained for the site based in France at Saint-Hilaire-de-Riez. The rest are expected to be granted by the end of 2017.

The production site located in Saint-Hilaire-de-Riez processes algae harvested in a Natura 2000 area. Even if this activity is not directly carried out by the promoter, who purchases the algae from a supplier, it has commissioned together with the supplier an impact analysis to discard negative environmental effects caused by this algae harvesting activity in the area of concern. An impact study was conducted in December 2016. The result of the assessment, which was acknowledged by the competent authorities, stated that there will be no significant effect on fauna and flora.

Social Assessment, where applicable

The project will secure 581 existing jobs in the company, including 26 FTE in Research, Development and Innovation activities. It will also create, 205 new jobs, out of which 56 in RDI. There is no adverse social impact related to the project.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

French legislations foresee for all project falling under the category “Installation Classée” to inform the public, associations and local authorities through an impact study. This study is realized according to the French Environment Code.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The promoter’s algae facilities (including collections, processing and formulation located) are based on the highest international and EU standards. The various international standards, such as GMP+ (Good Manufacturing Producer+), Feed certification, in compliance with FAMI QS code (Feed Hygiene Regulation), ISO 9001, ISO 22000 (HACCP, management of food hygiene security) are integrated into the quality system. The procedures are reviewed and audited – and if necessary revised – each year to ensure the system always reflects the latest knowledge and insights.

Parts of the products sold by OLMIX are registered as fertilizers and have registration or a provisional authorisation for sale and conform either to the regulation CE 2003 or to a mandatory French NFU standard.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The investments are not expected to require substantial changes in the environmental permits of the relevant sites. As the project involves a four-year investment plan, part of the modernisations investments in France are still outstanding and authorities need to be consulted for the corresponding screening decisions. Therefore the following conditions will be included in the Finance Contract.

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Undertakings

For any sub-projects requiring a new or and modification of existing integral EIA/IED permits, the promoter shall have obtained before the start of construction of the sub-projects at the sites concerned, the corresponding institutional authorisation or screening decisions and where applicable the EIA study, and ensure to be accessible for EIB services.

First Disbursement

None

All other Disbursements

For investments programed under the period of implementation, send to the Bank the required permits approved by the competent authority and the corresponding modification of the EIA/IED and permitting process by sub-projects.

Based on these considerations, the Bank deems the Promoter's environmental capacity satisfactory and the project meets the EIB environmental and social standards.