

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	ROBART ROBOTIC NAVIGATION SYSTEMS (EGFF)
Project Number:	2019-0256
Country:	Austria
Project Description:	Robart is an Austrian company that develops navigation and control units for household robots, including a patent protected compact laser sensor and software with artificial intelligence features. Robart's technology makes intelligent robotic navigation more efficient and improves human-robot interaction. The project finances R&D to further enhance the functionality and intelligence of the robots and the Company's market expansion.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no

Environmental and Social Assessment

- The EIB lending concerns R&D activities for the development of intelligent cleaning robot solutions. The promoter's focus lies on vacuum cleaning robots for private households and it develops AI based software, high tech electronics and complete vacuum cleaning robots. All activities take place in existing locations. Such R&D activities are not listed in any annexes of the Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. Also, the capital investments concern primarily lab scale equipment and tooling that do not require any environmental assessment or authorisations.
- A possible positive impact of acceptance and implementation of household robots is that time is freed up for higher 'value-added' tasks in private household leading to a positive social impact. Additionally, the development of robots in more general terms will lead to the reduction of dangerous tasks by humans.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The proposed investments do not require any specific environmental permits and fall within an already authorised scope.
- As such, the project is acceptable for financing in environmental and social terms.

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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.