

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: MEDIA DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
Project Number: 20210431
Country: Belgium, Netherlands
Project Description: To finance the RDI programme and the digitalisation of the DPG Media Group for the years 2021 to 2023.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project concerns RDI and digitalisation activities that will be carried out in already existing and authorised R&D facilities. The project does not fall under any of Annexes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive – Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU and therefore not require screening or EIA Report.

The project per se does not have any significant environmental impact, while certain elements (further digitalisation of media and reduction of paper and physical distribution, improvement of operational efficiencies) will contribute to the improvement of the sustainability characteristics of the sector.

The project concerns industrial digitalisation activities and is therefore aligned with the objectives set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

DPG is increasing its focus in Sustainability and have recently started a thorough ESG analysis with an external partner. As of now, they have not yet set overall ESG key performance indicators and objectives, and these are expected to be included in the outcome of the ESG exercise. The company is however undertaking a number of initiatives towards this goal (new building under construction to achieve BREEAM-NL Outstanding certification, implementation of sustainable printing processes, new mobility programs, etc.).

Also at this stage there is no formal link of the company's activities to the UN SDGs, an area that will also be reviewed in the ESG analysis exercise.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The proposed investments do not require any additional authorisations and fall within an already authorised scope. As such, the project is considered acceptable for the Bank's financing in environmental and social terms.