

Luxembourg, 19/03/2024

Public

Environmental and Social Data Sheet¹

Overview

Project Name:	SWAPPIE (I EU G)
Project Number:	2023-0082
Country:	Finland, Estonia, Germany
Project Description:	Swappie is an online end to end platform that empowers customers to buy refurbished Iphones ("buy smart, not new"). Swappie makes refurbishment mainstream by purchasing old devices, repairing them to the highest standards and reintroducing them back to the market with a 1 year guarantee.
EIA required:	no
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ² :	yes

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The promoter sources, repairs and sells smart phones, providing extended warranty or replacement services and eventually repurchasing the device thus creating a fully circular business model. providing users with an affordable and sustainable alternative to first-hand shopping. The promoter provides a trusted brand and online presence which allows consumers to search for, compare and purchase refurbished smart phones. The services and solutions resulting from this marketplace are expected to extend the lifespan of consumer products, reducing waste, and generating positive externalities such as energy and resource savings from reduced production demand.

The project activities do not fall under the Annexes I or II of the EU Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU. The proposed investments concern the development and maintenance of software and hardware solutions, which will be carried out within existing office type facilities already used for similar activities.

The project investment is focusing on R&D and expansion activities to support the company's geographic and category growth with minimal impact in terms of climate hazards and is aligned to the Paris low-carbon criteria as published in the EIB Climate Bank Roadmap.

The electronic waste problem is colossal, and it's growing. According to publicly available estimates, in 2016 alone, 44.7 million tonnes of e-waste were generated globally, of which 435

¹ The information contained in the document reflects the requirement related to the environmental, social and climate information to be provided to Investment Committee as required by the Invest EU Regulation and it represents the equivalent of the information required in the template of the InvestEU sustainability proofing summary

² 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.



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thousand tonnes were mobile phones. Just 20% of e-waste is documented to be collected and recycled under appropriate conditions, while the remaining 80% is either thrown into the residual waste stream or dumped, traded or treated in substandard conditions. This level of demand and material waste in the global consumer electronics system has significant negative economic, social, and environmental impacts.

Climate Assessment

Climate change mitigation

The impact on GHG emissions is driven by the portfolio of products that are refurbished. As an example, compared to a new device, the CO₂ emission savings on a refurbished smart phone is in the range of 75% to 80%.

Climate change adaptation

The project's activities will take place in existing facilities, and given the location, and the sector of activity, the climate risk is assessed as low.

Paris Alignment of projects

The project to be financed by the Bank concerns the promoter's investment in the field of a marketplace supporting circular economy approaches and as such is aligned with the Bank's Climate Bank Roadmap and is considered as fully eligible under Environmental Sustainability-Circular Economy.

Social Assessment

The promoter is expected to comply with all applicable labour and social legislation. With the appropriate management systems in place the social risks and impacts are considered to be low. No social risks or issues are expected during the project's implementation.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The consumer electronics industry is responsible for a significant amount of global pollution, which is not only bad for the environment but also for society. The consequences of a linear electronics system pose environmental and health impacts both at the production and disposal ends. Vast amounts of energy and hazardous substances are required in the mining and manufacturing of products, and the demand for resources has been linked to dangerous working conditions. Disposal and recycling of electronics can expose people and the environment to toxic chemicals when used products are not treated in formal recycling centres.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The project is not expected to have any significant negative impact either on the natural and human environment or on public health.

The outcomes of the project are expected to make a strong contribution to environmental sustainability by extending the lifespan of consumer electronic products, reducing waste and generating positive externalities. The promoters service prevents emissions, the largest contributor to which is the production activity. Current disposal practices mean much of the energy, resources and value embodied in electronic products is lost, generating vast amounts of waste in the process.

Sustainability proofing conclusion: The project is carried out in compliance with applicable national and EU climate, environmental and social legislation. Based on the environmental,



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climate and social information and the review of the likely significant environmental, climate and social risks and impacts and the mitigation measures and management systems in place, the project is deemed to have low residual environmental, climate and social risks and impacts. No further sustainability proofing is therefore required.

The project is acceptable for EIB financing in environment, climate and social terms.