

18/12/24

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	MEDIA DIGITAL ACCELERATION
Project Number:	2024-0326
Country:	Belgium, the Netherlands
Project Description:	The Project concerns the promoter's investments in Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) as well as digitalization of media services and operations in Belgium and the Netherlands over the period 2024-26.
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

RDI activities for the digitalisation of media services are not specifically covered by Annexes I or II of the EU Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by the 2014/52/EU Directive, and are therefore not subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment procedure or screening process.

The proposed RDI activities will take place mainly inside buildings at existing company offices already being used for similar activities and are not expected to have a significant environmental impact on the surroundings.

The Promoter is in scope but screened out of the PATH framework, as its activities are not included in the list of EIB sub-sectors and segments in high-emitting sectors (Annex 10 of the PATH framework). Furthermore, the counterparty is screened out for high vulnerability.

#### Social Assessment

The financed project is expected to contribute to social inclusion through the expansion of an accessible, reliable, trustworthy, and safe publishing platform for a larger number of consumers, including those with a lower income. It provides an opportunity to empower consumers to access a remarkable amount of local information in autochthonous language, further supporting digital inclusion.

#### Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The promoter publicly reports on its ESG achievements progress annually, providing updates on their overall governance systems and capacity to manage E&S risks alongside its performance indicators.

### Conclusions and Recommendations

<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20 000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.



The project aims to support the promoter in their research, development and innovation activities, which are expected to generate positive knowledge, technology, and environmental externalities, thanks to the digitalisation of media publishing and entertainment business processes mainly in Belgium and the Netherlands regions.

The project is aligned with the Paris low-carbon criteria as published in the EIB Climate Bank Roadmap under Industry, RDI sector.

Considering the above, the investment is acceptable for EIB financing in Environmental, Climate and Social terms.