

InvestEU Scoreboard¹

Presentation of the financing or investment operation:

Implementing Partner: EIB

Name of the Operation: KELIBER BATTERY GRADE LITHIUM PRODUCTION(2017-0804)

Type of approval :

- Individual financing or investment operation
 Framework Operation

Name of the final recipient: Keliber Technology Oy

Country of implementation: Finland

Short description of the financing or investment operation:

Project comprises mining, ore beneficiation and production of battery grade lithium (Li) hydroxide (“LiOH”). The Project includes the successive development and mining of several pegmatite mines, a concentrator plant to produce Li containing spodumene concentrate and an innovative first-of-a-kind hydro-metallurgical processing plant to produce battery grade lithium hydroxide with a nominal capacity of 15 kt/a.

The LiOH market is currently dominated by producers outside Europe, mainly China. Hence, the project is expected to strengthen the EU’s resilience in terms of critical raw material supply. The Project will use for the first time an innovative LiOH process and is expected to have the lowest mine-to-market production emissions relative to established hard-rock producers.

Public Statement

The project will implement the first integrated high purity, battery grade Li hydroxide (LiOH) manufacturing facility in Europe, including mines, concentration and final refining. Moreover, it will be the first deployment at commercial scale of an innovative and breakthrough process for LiOH manufacturing that has a reduced environmental and carbon footprint compared to the existing predominant manufacturers. Lithium is a critical raw material due to its supply risk and economic importance for the EU and the transition in energy and transport.

The project addresses the several market failures. Imperfect competition is present in the field of the battery manufacturing supply chain, mainly served by dominant non-EU LiOH and Lithium Carbonate (LiCO) manufacturers. As well, imperfect and asymmetric information affects the Project, as the promoter is a start-up investing in innovative technology competing with established companies and technologies.

Along its positive environmental and climate externalities the project will support innovation in the battery supply chain and processing of critical raw materials and hence as well generate positive knowledge externalities. EIB is providing a substantial amount of senior financing to the Project, with a

¹ This Scoreboard of indicators reflects the information presented to the InvestEU Investment Committee (IC) for its decision on the use of the EU guarantee for this operation. Therefore, the document does not take into account possible developments that could have occurred after this decision.

catalytic role, expected to crowd in other financiers. With the EIB participation, the Promoter will be able to diversify its funding sources and likely improve its financing conditions.

Pillar 3 - Market failure or sub-optimal investment situation addressed by the financing or investment operation (**Good**)

Pillar 4 - Financial and technical contribution by the Implementing Partner (**Good**)

Pillar 5 - Impact of the financing or investment operation (**Very Good**)

Pillar 7 - Complementary indicators²

Expected at PCR	
Start of works	01.02.2022
End of works	31.10.2025
Project investment cost	mEUR 541.36
Mandate eligible investment mobilized	mEUR 541.36
Mandate multiplier effect	5.28
Mandate leverage effect	2.63
Amount of private financing	mEUR 221.36
Co-financing with national promotional banks	177.00 (80% of private financing as a guarantee) MEUR
Co-financing with structural funds (ESIF)	0.00 MEUR
Energy efficiencies realised	0.00 MWh/a
Climate Action indicator	100.00% Mitigation - Other (transversal)
Employment during construction - temporary jobs	750 person years
Employment during operation - new permanent jobs	220 FTE
Gender Tag	No significant contribution to Gender Equality

Outputs

Expected at PCR	
Compliance with Best Available Technologies (BAT)	Yes

Outcomes

Expected at PCR	
Total sales of the promoter [MEUR]	0
Total potential sales resulting from the project [MEUR]	0
Total employment of the promoter [FTE]	26FTE
Percentage of promoter's employment supported by the project [%]	100%
Employment supported by the project [FTE]	246 FTE

² The abbreviation PCR stands for Project Completion Report. EIB internal methodologies are used in order to calculate the figures presented in this document. The Promoter's estimates might differ.