

# MEWAH GROUP

## **ENVIRONMENTAL & BIODIVERSITY POLICY**

### A. Introduction

Mewah Group is a global food and agribusiness. Our business operations are integrated throughout the value chain from sourcing of raw materials, refining, processing, packing, branding to marketing and distribution to end customers under our own brands. Sustainability is part of everything we do and building a sustainable business is part of our value proposition. We are committed to building sustainable and long-term business growth, while leading and shaping positive change for the global communities and the environment. We believe that environmental and biodiversity investing is the right way forward.

#### B. Provision

This policy applies to all entities within the Mewah Group, including our subsidiary companies, and extends to all third-party suppliers, both direct and indirect. We expect all suppliers to wholeheartedly embrace and uphold our commitments through their operations.

#### C. Scope

We acknowledge and deeply respect the critical importance of sustainable natural resource management. Our commitment are to ensure the well-being of local communities and to protect the environment.

We are dedicated to upholding the principles of Sustainable Development by:

- 1. **Compliance with Environmental Laws:** We commit to comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations in every country where we operate.
- 2. Zero Conversion of Natural Forests: We pledge to cease the conversion of natural forest areas for all natural ecosystems, promoting best management practices for all soils and peatlands.
- 3. High Conservation Values (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS): We recognize HCV and HCS assessments as best practices to identify areas of conservation and protection. These assessments will be conducted by licensed High Conservation Value (HCV) assessors accredited by the HCV Resource Network's Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS). For HCS areas, we will adhere to the HCS approach as defined by the HCS Approach Toolkit.
- 4. Biodiversity Protection: In addition to HCV and HCS areas, including riparian buffer zones, pocket forests, steep terrain, wetlands, peat swamp forests, and other high-biodiversity-value areas, we are committed to safeguarding rare, threatened, and endangered (RTE) species and any species with conservation concerns within or near our operation sites. We will adhere to national regulations and strictly prohibit any form of commercial hunting of such species within or near our operation sites.

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- 5. **Chemical Usage:** We prohibit the use of agrochemicals and pesticides classified under WHO Classes 1a, 1b, and those listed in the Stockholm & Rotterdam Conventions, except under very specific circumstances. The use of Paraquat is strictly forbidden. We are dedicated to minimizing the use of chemicals, including pesticides and chemical fertilizers, in our plantation operations.
- 6. **Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (SEIA):** We commit to conduct SEIA annually in our operations to identify significant actual and potential negative impacts on local communities. Once SEIA is completed, we will put in place a management plan to mitigate negative impacts and promote positive impacts as well as to create a society in which the legal and customary land tenure rights are respected.
- 7. Local Communities: We recognize and respect the rights of indigenous and local communities, particularly their rights to hunt for livelihood and subsistence. We are committed to offer work and business opportunities such as outgrower schemes and smallholder empowerment initiative.
- 8. **Employee Training:** We are committed to providing training and continuous monitoring of employee awareness regarding environmental importance and protection.
- 9. **Collaboration and Initiatives:** We actively encourage multilateral collaboration, partnerships, and initiatives that align with our environmental aspirations.

### D. Biodiversity Beyond HCV/HCS and Time-Bound Targets

We are dedicated to safeguarding biodiversity beyond High Conservation Values (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS) areas.

In pursuit of this commitment, we will implement a comprehensive action plan:

- 1. **Identify Ecologically Significant Areas:** We will conduct a thorough assessment to identify and map additional areas of ecological significance that may not have been covered by HCV or HCS assessments. This will involve engaging experts, local communities, and stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive understanding of these vital ecosystems.
- 2. **Establish Time-Bound Targets:** Starting from 2018, we have set clear and achievable timebound targets for biodiversity protection, restoration, and enhancement in these newly identified areas. These targets will be designed to align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and will be measurable, achievable, and relevant.
- 3. **Implement Conservation and Restoration Initiatives:** We will initiate and fund conservation and restoration projects tailored to each specific area's unique needs. These initiatives will

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include habitat restoration, reforestation, wildlife preservation, and the adoption of sustainable land use practices.

- 4. **Periodic Progress Reviews:** To ensure accountability and track our progress, we will conduct regular reviews at [specified intervals], led by a dedicated team of experts. These reviews will include monitoring biodiversity indicators, evaluating the success of our initiatives, and identifying areas where adjustments are necessary.
- Community Engagement: We recognize that the local communities play a pivotal role in biodiversity conservation. We will actively involve and collaborate with these communities, respecting their traditional knowledge and promoting their participation in conservation efforts.
- 6. **Stakeholder Collaboration**: We will seek partnerships and collaborations with relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and industry peers to leverage collective knowledge and resources for enhanced biodiversity protection.
- 7. **Transparency and Reporting**: We are committed to transparency in our actions. We will regularly report our progress and achievements in protecting biodiversity beyond HCV and HCS areas to our stakeholders, including investors, customers, and the wider public.
- Continuous Improvement: As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we will remain open to feedback, adapt our strategies when necessary, and explore innovative approaches to biodiversity protection. We will strive to be at the forefront of sustainable practices in our industry.

We firmly believe that through these tangible actions, we can make a significant positive impact on biodiversity preservation, contributing to the greater well-being of our planet and the communities we serve. Our pledge is not only to meet current standards but to continually raise the bar in safeguarding our planet's natural resources and ecosystems.