
Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change Mitigation Policy

Planting Naturals B.V. understands and appreciates the enormous threat to human and natural systems as a result of anthropogenic climate change. Therefore, we continuously monitor and strive to **significantly limit our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** in every aspect of our operations, whilst also **contributing to carbon sequestration** through indigenous forest protection and our organic and regenerative agricultural policies.

Through our commitment to RSPO's continuous improvement policy and our own internal policies and actions, we contribute to cumulative reductions in GHG emissions and to climate change mitigation in the following ways:

- **High Conservation Value (HCV) natural ecosystem protection**
 - HCV areas are those of biological, ecological, social or cultural values of outstanding significance or critical importance within a landscape.
 - Full HCV assessments have been done across our operations, including at all owned and affiliated plantations and mills, in line with RSPO procedure, and along with relevant compensation/remediation strategies.
 - Ecological HCV areas includes protecting indigenous forests as climate regulating ecosystems (and where viable, peatlands) as important GHG stocks, in collaboration with local communities.

- **No deforestation and High Carbon Stock (HCS) forest protection**
 - Maintaining valuable carbon stocks held in forests through protection of forests against deforestation, thus avoiding CO² emissions (from chopping or burning) and maintaining sequestration abilities of the forest.

- **Zero tolerance approach to burning**
 - We do not burn under any circumstances, both for maintenance on our farms or as preparation for future plantations, preventing a major source of direct GHG emissions and destruction of vegetation.
 - Training and assisting our network of smallholder farmers in developing sustainable agricultural techniques and maintaining their farms without the use of burning.

- **Adoption of organic principles and Climate-Smart agriculture**
 - Working alongside nature to build resilient agricultural systems.



- Strictly avoid the use of fossil-fuel based agricultural inputs (e.g. chemical fertilisers and pesticides) and the emissions created through their production and application; sensible policy monitoring on-farm transport and machinery to save on fuel usage.
 - Working to improve soil health through organic farming, e.g. structure, fertility and biodiversity. Agroforestry approaches by smallholders further increases the sequestration contributions of our farming activities.
 - Holistic approach through Climate-Smart agriculture develops a system that both reduces environmental impact of farming, whilst incorporating crop varieties and management that are resilient to extreme weather changes
- **Operating our own independently managed mill, on farm**
 - Reduces transportation requirements from farm to mill.
 - Mill is primarily powered using steam turbo-alternators that are fuelled from by-products of the milling process e.g. fibre and shell. The turbo also generates excess energy, beyond the mill requirements, which may in future be able to power other outputs.
- **Sourcing closer to Europe**
 - Europe is our primary trading market and current location of refineries, and so by sourcing the vast majority of palm oil from our farms and smallholder growers in West Africa (in comparison to South-East Asia or Latin America), transportation requirements are significantly reduced.
 - There are future plans in place to work with a network of local refineries in Sierra Leone.
- **Trade with partners that share our values**
 - Those who also strive to limit their own climate impact and emissions through sustainable production and manufacturing methods.
- **Adaptation to extreme weather events**
 - Some impacts of climate change are already unavoidable; therefore, we protect the health and well-being of our workers and of our farms through careful adaptation to extreme weather events such as heavy rainfall and excessive heat, and secondary events (e.g. landslides).
 - This includes both written policies and procedure for response in case of extreme weather, and also working techniques and operations on farm.