



# Climate action



Enjoying our products today  
whilst safeguarding tomorrow's planet

# Introduction

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges we face today. Its impacts are visible around the world. The global temperature increase is leading to rising sea levels and the warming of oceans, threatening coastal communities and ecosystems. Severe weather, such as intense storms and persistent droughts, threaten crop production, fresh water supplies, and wildlife. Climate change is also impacting human health. Diseases are spreading more rapidly, and air quality and water supplies are deteriorating. Together, the impacts of climate change are affecting the liveability of our planet, disproportionately hurting vulnerable communities.

Climate change is primarily driven by human activity. The emission of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide and methane, result in the warming of the planet. The biggest emitters are the manufacturing, transportation, energy, and construction industries, which rely heavily on fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas. In addition, landfills and agriculture, particularly the use of land for raising livestock, produce a large amount of methane. Furthermore, deforestation significantly impacts climate change through the function of forests of capturing CO<sub>2</sub> and regulating climate patterns.

We must act now to limit the average temperature rise to 1.5°C, compared to the forecasted temperature rise of 3°C in the 21st century. Only then we can avert the most damaging impacts of climate change. To achieve this, we must cut our emissions in half by 2030 (compared to 2010) and reach net zero emissions by 2050. This requires a major change in how we live, work and do business. To guide nations in the transition to net zero emissions, the European Commission introduced the European Green Deal. The policy initiatives of the European Green Deal are centred on achieving economic growth by moving from non-renewable resource usage to renewable resource usage.

The cost of **adapting** coastal areas to rising sea levels

Loss of **capacity to work** due to heat

More wars to gain access to **limited** resources

Fresh water will be in short supply in some areas



The cost of **adapting** coastal areas to rising sea levels

Shrinking **productivity of harvests**

Prices of **basic foodstuffs and consumer goods** will rise

**Extreme meteorological phenomena** will cause widespread poverty

Diseases will spread due to **higher temperatures**

# Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.

We have selected Sustainable Development Goal 7, 9 and 13 to monitor our impact and to adapting our business activities regarding combating climate change.



**Goal 7** aims to “Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”

- Target 7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
- Target 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency



**Goal 9** aims to “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation”

- Target 9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities >> CO<sub>2</sub> emission per unit of value added



**Goal 13** aims to “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”.

- Target 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- Target 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

# Our commitments

We invest in sustainability improvements in our own operations and throughout our value chain to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, combat deforestation, and fight climate change.



## Taking climate actions in our own operations

We are climate neutral by implementing energy-efficient ways of working and using renewable energy sources for our own operations.

### Targets 2030

Net zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions occurring from own operations (offices, warehouses, air travel, lease cars).



## Offering sustainable distribution solutions

We collaborate with our business partners along the value chain to make our operations more efficient and to transport goods in a more environmentally friendly manner.

### Targets 2030

Reduce of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the transport of consumer goods in line with science-based targets.



## Our product portfolio

We aim to reduce deforestation by sourcing sustainable palm oil, paper and cardboard for our specialty brands<sup>1</sup> and packaging used in logistics.

### Targets 2030

- 100% segregated RSPO palm oil<sup>2</sup>
- 100% FSC/PEFC<sup>3</sup>/recycled paper and cardboard

<sup>1</sup> Hereafter: specialty brands include private labels and licensed brands.

<sup>2</sup> Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

<sup>3</sup> Forest Stewardship Council and Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification

# Our principles



## Taking climate actions in our own operations

### Reduce energy consumption

We reduce our energy consumption by implementing energy-saving measures.

### Renewable energy

We maximise the use of renewable energy sources.

### Climate proof

We add more greenery to our premises and compensate remaining, unavoidable CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through our eco-restoration and reforestation fund.



## Offering sustainable distribution solutions

### Reduce fuel consumption

We improve efficiency by combining product shipments, using less carbon-intensive modes of transport such as barge transport when possible, and carefully select our hub locations.

### Renewable fuels

We collaborate with partners along the value chain to promote and invest in alternative fuel options.

### Climate proof

We commit to setting a SBTi target for our scope 3 emissions related to our distribution activities.



## Our product portfolio

### Stop deforestation

We combat deforestation by purchasing sustainable palm oil and sustainable packaging from recycled pulp and/or FSC or equivalent sources.

### Carbon neutral products

We assess which products are responsible for the highest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions based on the production process and ingredients used and extend our product range with alternative options that emit less CO<sub>2</sub>.

### Climate proof

We commit to setting a SBTi target for our scope 3 emissions related to our product portfolio.





# Our plan of **action**



# Taking climate actions in our own operations

## Reduce energy consumption

We reduce our energy consumption by implementing energy-saving measures

- We reduce our energy consumption by implementing energy saving measures – in conjunction with our multiyear maintenance plan 2030. Examples include:
  - LED – when replacing lights, only LED is used
  - Energy-efficient equipment
  - Heat recovery systems
  - Insulation
  - Optimising sensor and data possibilities, both for light, temperature regulation, and equipment
  - Reducing heat loss
- We incorporate our environmental building principles into maintenance schedules, new warehouses, and refurbishments of existing warehouses
- We use ISO 14001 to incorporate and integrate our climate action targets into our business processes and procedures.
- We use plants and trees as natural temperature controllers around our premises.
- We work towards better energy labels (C minimum), green buildings, and participation in energy efficiency certification programmes.
- We support our employees to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from commuting:
  - updating our mobility policy
  - ensuring readiness of EV infrastructure
  - stimulating employees to use more sustainable modes of transport
  - stimulating working from home at least one day per week
  - investigating concentrating office spaces closer to employees' homes

## Renewable energy

We maximise the use of renewable energy sources

- We use 100% renewable electricity in 2030 for all premises we control by either producing it ourselves or purchasing it from our energy provider
- We replace the use of synthetic refrigerants with natural refrigerants. In 2030 we use 100% natural refrigerants.
- We switch to alternatives for gas or other fossil fuel-burning boilers and explore renewable heating alternatives, such as ground source heat pumps and biogas.
- We actively stimulate electric mobility for our employees. In 2030 we have 100% electric lease contracts.
- We use Sustainable Aviation Fuel for our business travel activities.

## Climate proof

We compensate unavoidable CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through our reforestation fund

- We add green spaces where we can,
- We set a SBTi target for our operational activities in 2023.
- We compensate our unavoidable CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from our air travel and lease car mileage if any by launching our own reforestation fund.



# Offering sustainable distribution solutions

## Reduce fuel consumption

We improve efficiency by combining product shipments, using less carbon-intensive modes of transport such as barge transport when possible, and carefully select our hub locations.

- We optimise load factors and routing; we discuss with our business partners – clients, suppliers and transport partners – how to best realise efficiency gains. Examples are milk runs, grouping and consolidating transports
- We switch to alternative modes of transport when possible, such as transport via barge (3 to 6 times less than road<sup>1</sup>) and rail (up to 6 times less than road<sup>2</sup>).
- We combine shipments through better planning and by steering on both costs and CO<sub>2</sub> savings.
- We limit the movement of air. Our parcels are not packed and shipped in unnecessary large parcels. Items that fit through a mail-box are matched with packaging that enables just that. In addition, we proactively work with our main parcel handlers and clients.
- We concentrate our Hub structure and incorporate CO<sub>2</sub> savings in modelling to determine best location decisions.
- We work with transport partners who also work towards reducing their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- We take the carbon footprint into account when making transportation decisions.
- We proactively engage in network associations such as Evofenedex to stimulate collaboration and accelerate learning.

## Renewable fuel

We collaborate with partners along the value chain to promote and invest in alternative fuel options

- We collaborate with partners along the value chain to promote and invest in the use of electric vehicles and alternative fuel options, such as biofuels and hydrogen.
- We enable net zero emissions delivery options upon request from customers.

## Climate proof

We commit to setting a SBTi target for our scope 3 emissions related to our distribution activities

- We set a SBTi target for our distribution activities in 2023.

<sup>1</sup> [Evofenedex](#)

<sup>2</sup> Idem



## Our strategy & commitments in motion

We are already taking action to build a more sustainable future and contribute to the well-being of the communities in which we operate. Join us and follow our progress at [www.bs-group-sa.com/about-us/sustainability/](http://www.bs-group-sa.com/about-us/sustainability/)

## Principles and policies

This policy is established by the Sustainability Department and applies to the entire B&S Group. It will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

B&S has various sets of policies in place governing the performance of its entities and ensuring implementation of action plans throughout our company. More information can be found in the following publications:



Climate action



Be resource conscious



Responsible products and responsible sourcing



Empowered people



Code of Business Ethics



Supplier Code of Conduct

[Go to documents](#)

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