



# **APRIL Group Sustainability Policy**

The APRIL Group Sustainability Policy provides an overarching framework for all our sustainability policies and commitments and follows from the RGE Sustainability Policy.

As part of the RGE Group, APRIL is guided by the RGE purpose of improving lives by developing resources sustainably. We are committed to sustainable development in the locations where we operate, inspired by our founder's 5Cs principle that whatever we do must be good for the Community, Country, Climate and Customer, and only then will it be good for the Company. We fully support the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aiming to promote a balance across social and economic development, and the protection and enhancement of climate and nature.

For APRIL, sustainability means the responsible management of natural resources; striving for positive impacts on climate, nature and people; improving the circularity and resource efficiency of our products and processes; being part of the solution to global challenges such as climate change and nature and biodiversity loss; and engaging with our stakeholders for an inclusive and equitable value chain.

## Scope

This Policy applies to APRIL, including all Business Units, Departments, and Fiber Supply Partners, and we will put in place appropriate management, monitoring and reporting systems to enable its operational implementation.

All APRIL employees, contractors, consultants and suppliers are expected to adhere to this Policy and in general, act responsibly and ethically. If a law conflicts with this Policy, we will comply with the law.

The Policy builds on our Sustainable Forest Management Policy (SFMP 2.0) and addresses four main pillars – Climate, Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Conservation, Human Rights, and Sustainable Growth.

## Climate

Climate change is widely acknowledged as the defining global challenge of our times. APRIL recognizes the significant role of the private sector in driving mitigation and adaptation solutions in our value chains, including with the local communities in the landscapes where we operate.

APRIL will develop a coherent climate strategy, encompassing mitigation and adaptation, and with clear targets for deep reductions in GHG emissions that recognize the global goal of limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degrees C by 2050. These targets will be achieved through a comprehensive decarbonization plan, including the progressive transition to renewable and cleaner energy sources to help drive the shift to a low carbon economy.

We will adopt relevant global frameworks for identifying climate-related risks and opportunities, and develop strategies that respond to these, including contributing to climate science and advancing nature-based solutions by further expanding our significant forest conservation and restoration areas.





# **Biodiversity Protection and Conservation**

Recognizing the critical importance of forests and natural ecosystems in combating climate change, protecting and enriching biodiversity, and sustaining community livelihoods, APRIL will continue to be firmly committed to zero deforestation, degradation and conversion in our operations and supply chain. We go beyond this by adopting ambitious and unique conservation pledges, such as conserving a hectare of natural forest for every hectare of plantation (1 for 1) and committing to invest in conservation based on delivered fiber supply.

As a pioneer of the production-production approach, APRIL promotes and implements forest restoration to help protect and manage biodiversity habitats through securing long-term forest restoration licenses, provision of operational, technical and funding resources, and through partnerships. APRIL also supports scientific research and the publication of their results together with our partners.

## **Human Rights**

We embrace our corporate responsibility to respect human rights, including the rights of Indigenous peoples and communities, and will comply with relevant national laws and regulations, and international conventions, agreements and standards in our approach, including the UN Global Compact, the International Bill of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

As articulated in our Human Rights Policy, human rights are inherent to all human beings regardless of nationality, place of residence, sex, identity, ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. We commit to prevent and eliminate all forms of forced labor; adopt zero tolerance for child labor and any form of inhumane treatment of employees; promote equal opportunity and diversity in the work-place; and protect the health, safety and well-being of our employees and communities.

We are committed to raising awareness, promoting best practices, and putting in place mechanisms to mitigate any risks to human rights in all our operations.

#### Sustainable Growth

We are committed to growing our business through a strategy of downstream diversification, responsible production, and the decoupling of production growth from any new forest conversion into plantations. We invest significantly in research and development to improve our fiber productivity, and attain high levels of efficiency in material use, recovery and re-use across key resources such as water, energy, chemicals and other inputs. We also adopt a waste-to-value approach where new business opportunities are created using the waste to manufacture new products.

To fulfill this Sustainability Policy, we will:

- Comply with local, regional and national laws and regulations;
- Communicate this and all other relevant Policies to all employees, contractors and suppliers;
- Provide the appropriate resources, training and education to all our operations to ensure our employees and contractors understand and meet our Sustainability Policy;
- Set time-bound, measurable and publicly communicated targets;
- Adopt relevant international industry best practice and certification standards;





- Identify, assess, address and report relevant risks and opportunities, following standard due diligence process;
- Adopt a data-driven approach to regularly monitor, review and independently evaluate our performance, and publicly report on our progress;
- Set corrective actions and measures to ensure continuous improvement in our performance;
- Support transparency, knowledge exchange and joint solutions by engaging with government, civil society groups, academic institutions, local communities and other relevant stakeholders at local, national and international levels; and
- Implement the principles and practice of Free, Prior Informed Consent where affected rightsholders are identified.

#### Governance

The Executive Management Committee sets the governance approach for sustainability, directs and approves policies, commitments and strategies, reviews performance, and ensures that decisions and actions are guided by integrity, accountability, and transparency.

This Sustainability Policy will be reviewed periodically or at least every two years to ensure they remain current and relevant to the business and stakeholder context.

The responsibility for sustainable policy implementation is allocated to the Director for Sustainability and External Affairs, with advice from the independent Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

# Grievance

APRIL maintains a publicly accessible grievance mechanism and will transparently respond to any grievance raised and report on actions taken. We will regularly monitor the effectiveness of our grievance mechanism and continually improve on these to respond to changing needs.

Wang Bo
President APRIL Group

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