



# Deforestation Policy

Polch, 31.01.2025

## Introduction

At Griesson - de Beukelaer, we are consistently committed to ethical, law-abiding and environmentally and socially responsible corporate governance. These values are firmly anchored in the guidelines of our traditional family business and reflect our ongoing commitment to the sustainable use of natural resources and the environment.

As Griesson - de Beukelaer, we recognise the important role of forests in combating climate change, preserving biodiversity and supporting the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities. At the same time, we recognise the impact that the production of agricultural commodities has had and continues to have on forests and natural ecosystems. As a manufacturing company that sources and processes agricultural raw materials, we see it as our responsibility and obligation to counteract deforestation in the regions of origin of these raw materials. We define our goals and our approach to preventing deforestation in our supply chains in our end-of-life deforestation policy, which we have declared here.

## Scope of application

This policy applies to all sites and operating facilities of Griesson - de Beukelaer GmbH & Co. KG and its affiliated companies and covers all raw materials relevant to us that are currently associated with deforestation: **cocoa, palm oil, coffee, soya and wood**.

## Our target

As Griesson - de Beukelaer, we are committed to a deforestation-free supply chain for all relevant products based on cocoa, palm oil, coffee, soya and wood by the statutory target date of **30<sup>th</sup> December 2025** of the European Deforestation Regulation (EU) 2023/1115, or EUDR for short.

We will therefore ensure that none of these relevant products are processed in our products or that we place them on the market if they originate from areas that were deforested **after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**. Deforestation-free means that no conversion of forests into agricultural land has taken place or, in the case of wood products, that no forest degradation has occurred on the affected areas after this date

These targets correspond to the FLAG standard of the [Science Based Target initiative](#). In addition, we are guided by the [Accountability Framework](#) and other international standards such as the RSPO (Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil).



## Implementation

During implementation, we adhere to the current requirements of the European Deforestation Regulation.

To ensure that the relevant products we place on the market comply with the requirements of the EUDR, we carry out a due diligence process that confirms the legality of cultivation and minimizes the risk of deforestation. We have also defined the requirements for deforestation-free raw materials in our specifications, which form the basis for the procurement of the relevant raw materials.

The QM/Sustainability & Strategic Projects department is responsible for implementing due diligence in the business processes at Griesson - de Beukelaer and is supported by the QM/Raw Materials & Packaging as well as the Purchasing departments.

In order to achieve deforestation-free supply chains, transparency and traceability in the supply chains must be continuously improved. This requires constant cooperation with our suppliers, other manufacturing companies, industry initiatives and other stakeholders (e.g. NGOs, local initiatives of affected people).

## Cocoa

The requirements relate to chocolate, cocoa powder and other cocoa containing food preparations that we purchase. These raw materials are listed in Annex I of the EUDR, meaning that the following criteria will apply from 30<sup>th</sup> December 2025:

- They derive from legal sources
- They are deforestation-free with cut-off date 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

In addition, a large proportion of the cocoa is certified in accordance with the Rainforest Alliance or Fairtrade standard (mass balance concept). The proportion will be successively increased in future.

## Palm oil

The majority of the palm (kernel) oil we use is subject to Annex I of the EUDR, so that the following criteria will apply from 30<sup>th</sup> December 2025:

- It comes from legal sources
- It is deforestation-free with cut-off date 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

In addition, we only use RSPO-certified palm (kernel) oil - where available - in segregation quality for all products. The volume of this supply chain model is over 99%. In addition to legal cultivation, the raw materials fulfil the following criteria:

- No slash-and-burn clearing to create new plantations since 2005
- Deforestation-free since November 2018: no plantations established on peat soils of any depth or on areas with high conservation value (HCV) and areas with high carbon stock (HCS)



## **Soya**

We only use soya lecithin as an ingredient. The soya lecithin we purchase directly is deforestation-free according to the definition in the ProTerra certification standard and is therefore not associated with the conversion of other natural ecosystems. Soya lecithin in purchased compound raw materials such as chocolate should be deforestation-free by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2030. Soya used in animal feed for the production of egg and dairy ingredients is not covered by the obligation of this deforestation policy.

## **Coffee**

The coffee we use in the production of pastries is a relevant product of the EUDR and therefore fulfils the following conditions from 30<sup>th</sup> December 2025: It is deforestation-free as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and comes from legal sources

## **Paper and cellulose-based packaging materials**

The requirements apply to the procurement of all wood fibre-containing paper packaging materials (folding carton, corrugated plastic, outer carton, display) at Griesson - de Beukelaer. For our paper packaging materials, we mainly use material that derives from FSC®-certified forests, recycled materials and other controlled sources (FSC® N003066).

From 2026, all paper and pulp-based packaging materials will come from legal sources and be deforestation-free as defined by the EUDR.

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