

Symrise Forest Policy

Forests play key roles in soil and biodiversity conservation, the water cycle, carbon sequestration as well as biomass production for human needs, such as food, fiber or the provision of medicinal and aromatic plants. Symrise depends on a variety of biological resources originating from wild or managed ecosystems around the globe. We purchase and use these precious natural raw materials to create unique fragrances, flavors, cosmetic and other functional ingredients for improved nutrition, health and wellbeing. Our portfolio therefore contains a variety of forest based natural raw materials and commodities, such as palm oil*, timber derivatives or several non-timber forest products, which may negatively impact forest ecosystems in case that unsustainable cultivation or collection practices are applied along the value chain.

As a responsible company, Symrise is committed to ensure zero deforestation within our supply chains as well as ethical sourcing of natural raw materials, including those linked to forests. Taking into consideration the vital role of forests to both human wellbeing and supply chain resilience we want to play our part in tackling the global forest challenge by contributing to conservation and sustainable use of forest ecosystems and biodiversity at all relevant scales.

For this reason, Symrise commits to engage with its clients, natural raw material suppliers and other key stakeholders in order to increase awareness for forest issues and ensure, that the forest based natural raw materials within our portfolio comply with legal and ethical sustainability requirements, including:

1. No conversion, clearcutting or any other kind of overexploitation of pristine forest ecosystems, including of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) High Conservation Value (HCV) areas, High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests or peatlands
2. Conservation and sustainable use of pristine or managed forests and their natural goods and ecosystem services within ecological boundaries
3. Conservation and sustainable use below regeneration rates of wild collected materials from timber and non-timber forest species, with special consideration of threatened species according to CITES or IUCN classification
4. Compliance with relevant international rules on nature conservation, such as the UN Convention on Biological Diversity or the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and related national law
5. Promotion and respect of the UN International Labor Principles along our value chains
6. Strict avoidance wood and derivatives illegally harvested or likely coming from controversial sources
7. Recognition of traditional knowledge and respect of the rights of local and indigenous communities over land, biological resources and their cultural heritage, including acquisition of free prior informed consent, if applicable
8. 100% traceability of key strategic forest risk commodities until 2020 according to our sustainable sourcing policy
9. Maximizing supply of forest based raw materials from sustainable sources in line with recognized standards, such as the Forest Stewardship Council or Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil scheme.

In the course of our annual reporting procedures we will inform our stakeholders about status and progress made on the implementation of this policy.

Holzminden, Germany, October 2018



Hans Holger Gliewe
Chief Sustainability Officer