



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STATEMENT

OWNER: SUSTAINABILITY DEPT
VERSION 1 / NOVEMBER 2023





For more than a century, Walter Matter has shown commitment to improve the supply chains where we operate and bring support to local communities. Our Business Principles and our [Responsible Business Policy](#) refer to Environmental Protection and guide us and our Business Partners to make decisions and conduct our activities globally.

This Statement details our engagement to respect and enforce the Environmental Protection all along our supply chains.

This Statement considers the following international conventions and standards as references:

The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (UN1992), FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Land and Land Tenure, the ISO 14001:2015 Environmental management systems, The Paris Climate Agreement and The Biodiversity Framework.

SCOPE OF THE STATEMENT

This Statement applies to all our operations. We require our employees, part-time and temporary workers, independent contractors, and suppliers to comply with all local laws and regulations as well as with our Responsible Business Policy.

We deeply encourage our suppliers, service-providers, and customers to make significant efforts to guarantee respect of the Environment all along the value chains.

ACTING FOR CLIMATE

As increasingly severe and frequent natural events have shown, climate change is already affecting communities and ecosystems globally. Many producing countries and communities on which the coffee and cocoa industry rely have become particularly vulnerable to climate change adverse effects.

In line with the Paris Climate Agreement, Walter Matter supports the transition toward a low carbon economy to drastically reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions. We recognize that GHG emissions represent a significant part of our company's environmental footprint, from the electricity we use in our offices to the travel our people undertake. Walter Matter is committed to play its role in this journey and follow ambitious targets. Today, less than 5% of our total GHG emissions come from our own operations. Over 95% come from our value chain, mostly from farming. The task is heavy and collective action is mandatory to transform our industries and establish an innovative model both relevant and inclusive. Walter Matter works in collaboration with the producing organizations at origins to establish the appropriate action plan.

PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES AND BIODIVERSITY

Natural resources are vital to present and future human well-being. Walter Matter recognizes that industry in general and the agricultural sector in particular have a key role to play in preserving nature and conserving biodiversity.

We are committed to make a sustainable use of natural resources in our operations and to translate regulations and policies into concrete and efficient sustainability programs that address major environmental issues. We collaborate with our Business Partners to prevent negative impact on the environment and to create awareness around this concern.



Forest Protection

Agriculture expansion is responsible for almost 90% of forest loss. An increasing demand for agricultural products and the lack of good agricultural practices have led to extensive land-use change, causing biodiversity loss and GHG emissions. Forest protection is essential to conserve species, mitigate climate change and adapt to its impact. We are committed to setting up deforestation-free supply chains by monitoring land-use change and supporting forest restoration wherever possible, in collaboration with our Business Partners.

Water and soil Management

Water is the world's most precious resource and lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands represent habitats for a large proportion of biodiversity. Protecting fresh water is a must to ensure life on our planet. Healthy soils are also an indispensable basis for a thriving agriculture and crucial for climate change adaptation.

Walter Matter supports its suppliers to implement good water and soil conservation practices that contribute to conserving biodiversity and protecting climate.

Usage of inputs

In hand with our suppliers and service providers, we strictly monitor the use of agrochemicals and existence of other contaminants to ensure compliance with regulations. Wherever possible, we promote the use of organic inputs and other good agricultural practices that enhance farming without contaminating ecosystems.

PROMOTING REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Regenerative Agriculture is a conservation and rehabilitation approach to food and farming systems. that promotes carbon sequestration, soil improvement, watershed health and biodiversity. It focuses on topsoil regeneration, increasing biodiversity, improving the water cycle, enhancing ecosystem services, supporting bio-sequestration, increasing resilience to climate change, and strengthening the health and vitality of farm soil. Regenerative Agriculture is key to reverse prejudicial environmental damage and restore forests and agricultural landscapes. Walter Matter aims to spread the best agricultural practices within its supply chains.

GRIEVANCE REPORTING AND REMEDIATION PROCEDURE

Walter Matter facilitates a culture of dialogue where we can freely discuss and report any ethical and legal issues.

Walter Matter has set up a Grievance Procedure to receive and record any grievance and claim raised by individuals or communities that may occur within the company Walter Matter and within the supply chains where Walter Matter conducts its activities. The procedure details the process to implement the remediation solution that will be considered as the most appropriate.

The procedure is available on Walter Matter's website.



MOST SALIENT ISSUES: ASSESS AND ADDRESS POLICY

Walter Matter has identified the most salient issues occurring in its supply chains and is committed to act in collaboration with its Business Partners on the ground to set up coherent, robust and long-term solutions. Our "Most salient issues: Assess and Address Policy" details the due diligence process, by which we assess human-rights and other risks and establish effective remediation actions.

As all our Governance Documents, this Environmental Protection Statement is revised on a regular basis and amended according to the needs.