

## Policy Declaration

To whom it may concern,

Forests are under constant pressure due to the global need for raw materials, the increasing demand for renewable materials and the continuous expansion of agricultural land for food and biofuels. In the last decades, this led to the rise of certification and verification systems, and legality legislation. Adding economic value to sustainably managed forests is one of the proposed solutions to mitigate deforestation and to preserve forests and its biodiversity. Timber trade companies play a crucial role in this respect. Active collaboration, between all supply chain actors - from forest operator to final processor- and other organisations, is necessary. Support from trading companies enables that the forests' values are acknowledged in such a way that forests can compete with the threats of other land uses.

Boogaerdthout has always been very engaged with the world's forests. It has a rich history in contributing to developing forest management and policies in countries of origin. For over 100 years we have been relying on our own values and invested in forest management improvements for all our supply chains. Transparency in the trade chain is of paramount importance to us, and we strive for short supply lines. Our goal is to work together with suppliers to a more sustainable future for all parties involved.

The following values are carried out by our organisation.

- Legal compliance

We respect the laws and the applicable legal systems in place. Our organization does not purchase wood from countries against which sanctions have been imposed by the UN Security Council or the European Commission for importing or exporting wood or wooden products. All forest activities comply with applicable local, national or international legislation on forest management, including management practices, nature and environmental protection, protected and endangered species, property, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders, health, labour and safety issues, and the payment of applicable royalties and taxes.

- Conflict timber

We avoid purchasing wood or wood products which directly or indirectly finance armed groups who violate human rights to the best of our knowledge.

- Prohibition of corruption and bribery

We do not tolerate any form of, and do not engage directly or indirectly in any form of corruption or bribery and we do not grant, offer or promise anything of value to a government official or a counterparty in the private sector to influence official action or obtain an improper advantage.

- Environmental protection

We request suppliers to act in accordance with the applicable statutory and international standards regarding environmental protection. We support suppliers in using or setting up a reasonable environmental management system, which minimizes environmental pollution and make continuous improvements in environmental protection. To the best of our knowledge, all products originate from forests which have the capability to produce the range of wood on a sustainable basis, or the harvesting levels to not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term. We request suppliers to respect and maintain the interests of direct and indirect stakeholders of the forest management units where the harvesting activities take place.

To ensure we exclude undesirable material, we execute due diligence including risk assessments to assess and mitigate against risks of illegally harvested timber entering our supply chain. If we receive other signals, we will update our risk assessment accordingly. If in the risk assessment, a risk of undesired material is identified, either on the basis of its origin or the supply chain, no material of that origin is purchased via that chain until the risks have been managed and mitigated in such a way that a subsequent risk assessment indicates a negligible risk.

We grant our customers access to information about the identification of the material or product, including the trade name, the identification of the tree/wood species including the trade name and scientific name and, the identification of all countries in which the timber was harvested and, in case the risk of undesired material entering our supply chain differs between regions, the (sub-)national region or harvest location. In the event that the our organisation, whether or not after expressed concerns from customers, identifies material as material with a significant risk of illegal logging and undesirable activities before, during and after the forestry activities, we will take steps to improve the situation. We will create an action plan towards possible solutions. We will seek to resolve the areas of concern within a set period of time, or otherwise terminate the business relationship with this source.

Krimpen aan de Lek, September 2022



O.S. Smeets

Director Natuurlijk Hout BV | Boogaerdt Hout