



Bureau Veritas

Biodiversity preservation Policy

Group QHSE 201-PO – Version 1 – Dated 18/10/2022



**BUREAU
VERITAS**

1. BIODIVERSITY CONTEXT

Global economic development model and demographic trends put biodiversity under threat and, consequently, so is the functioning of the living planet. Ecosystem services will be affected, without us yet being able to estimate all the social and economic consequences.

The situation will get worse on land and in the oceans if no action is taken to address the factors behind biodiversity damage: land artificialization and territorial fragmentation that reduce habitats, resource overexploitation, monocultures, pollutions, expansion of alien invasive species, and lastly climate change.


Bureau Veritas can contribute to the development of new dynamics. Environment protection and biodiversity preservation are both fully part of Bureau Veritas mission which consists in verifying the conformity of activities, assets and products with standards related to quality, safety, environment and social responsibility.

Concrete experiences in our company and our value chain, from suppliers to customers, are encouraging us to integrate biodiversity into our strategy.

Most of the countries in which we operate are pursuing public policies, at various levels, aimed at conserving and restoring biodiversity as well as encouraging all actors to play an active part in this direction.

2. BUREAU VERITAS COMMITMENT

Aware of the role Bureau Veritas is expected to play, we are accordingly committing to integrating nature - environments, animals, plants, ecosystems, interactions and genetic heritage – into our strategy and business model, and to taking concrete action to provide solutions for the conservation of biological diversity, its restoration, the sustainable use of natural resources and a equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their utilization.

Bureau Veritas joined Act4nature International initiative [] and consequently committed to:

1. Integrate biodiversity into our corporate strategy, founding our action on available scientific knowledge;
2. Engage in dialogue with all our stakeholders regarding their expectations and our impacts, actions and progress;
3. Assess the various components of biodiversity of concern to us, using direct and indirect impact indicators, risk and performance indicators and, when relevant for decision making purposes, assess in economic terms our impacts and our reliance on smoothly functioning ecosystems;
4. Promote the progressive integration of biological diversity into decisions throughout our value chains, from the production of natural raw materials to the final stage of our products life cycle after use by consumers;
5. Primarily prevent, reduce and ultimately offset our impacts, by seeking on a case-by-case basis no net loss as a bottom line or even a net gain of biodiversity in our activities and geographical areas of influence, and by factoring in the need for ecosystems to adapt to climate change;

6. Give priority to the development of Nature-based Solutions, ensuring that they are implemented in a science-based and biodiversity-friendly manner, and promoting a certain variety in such solutions;
7. Incorporate biodiversity into our dialogue with policymakers so that this issue is progressively embedded into public policies. When invited to do so, contribute to the national biodiversity strategies of countries where we operate;
8. Raise awareness of and train our employees in biodiversity and its relation to their jobs. Promote and encourage nature-friendly initiatives by them and providing due recognition to such actions and practices;
9. Mobilise resources and establish appropriate partnerships to support and monitor our actions taken in the field;
10. Publicly report on the implementation of these commitments and of our individual commitments set out below.

3. BUREAU VERITAS BIODIVERSITY POLICY

In addition to these commitments, Bureau Veritas biodiversity policy relies on the following actions:

1. **Offer biodiversity-related services and solutions** to help our clients protect environment and preserve biodiversity. These biodiversity-related services are part of *Bureau Veritas Green Line services and solutions*.

At Bureau Veritas, biodiversity-related services are mainly part of its Certification activities. These services include:

- i. *Biodiversity progress*: a label newly developed by Bureau Veritas and LUCIE, an agency which is in charge of promoting and building capacity for corporate biodiversity impact reduction.
- ii. Several other services include biodiversity in their scope, such as:
 1. *Food & seafood*: GlobalGap, Rainforest Alliance/UTZ, MSC, ASC...
 2. *Forestry & wood*: FSC, PEFC...
 3. *Biofuels & biomaterials*: RSPO, REDCert, ISCC, 2BSvs

Bureau Veritas promotes these biodiversity-related services internationally towards all its clients.

Bureau Veritas also proposes the assistance of its experts to enhance company mobilization and/or to develop biodiversity, environment and sustainability certification in collaboration with NGOs, associations or industry leaders.

2. **Ask all suppliers to preserve biodiversity and reduce their environmental impact.**

Bureau Veritas implements a *Business partner code of conduct* which requests to protect biodiversity. Suppliers are requested to “be engaged to preserve the biodiversity and more extensively to reduce their environmental impact and to act against the climate change”. Surveillance of the most critical suppliers is performed regularly.

In addition, Bureau Veritas commits to source when it is possible, recycled paper and certified as sustainably sourced wood products and to upgrade accordingly its operational eco-efficiency policy.

Bureau Veritas aims at reaching 80% of suppliers conforming to Bureau Veritas code of conduct in 2023 (from 53% in 2020), with the ambition to reach 100% in 2025.

3. **Engage Bureau veritas employees with an internal communication campaign** to raise their awareness for biodiversity regarding their professional activities and their personal actions.
4. **Add a call to biodiversity preservation to Bureau Veritas CEO's environment statement.**
5. **Contribute to biodiversity preservation by reducing our CO2 emissions**, as defined in Bureau Veritas eco-efficiency policy.
6. **Participate in World Environment Day**
Involve Bureau Veritas employees in special events organized in line with WED mobilization topics.
7. **Mobilize Bureau Veritas offices to plant a tree for each new employee.**
This action is managed either centrally at Group level or locally by certain Operating Groups.

Donations are made to associations financing the plantation of trees in selected countries.
Bureau Veritas works with reforestACTION association.



4. REFERENCES

- (1) Biodiversity-related services:
 - a. <https://certification.bureauveritas.com/sustainability-circular>
 - b. <https://www.bureauveritas.fr/besoin/biodiversity-progress>
 - c. <https://certification.bureauveritas.com/needs/food-sustainability-certification>
 - d. <https://certification.bureauveritas.com/needs/sustainable-forestry-certification>
 - e. <https://certification.bureauveritas.com/needs/biofuels-biomaterials-certification>
 - f. <https://group.bureauveritas.com/expertise-sustainability>
- (2) Business partner code of conduct:
https://group.bureauveritas.com/sites/g/files/zyyfnx196/files/media/document/BPCC_SEPT_2020_EN.pdf
- (3) Environment statement :
https://group.bureauveritas.com/sites/g/files/zyyfnx196/files/media/document/Bureau-Veritas_Environment_Statement_2021.pdf
- (4) WED: <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>
- (5) ReforestAction : <https://www.reforestaction.com/en>