

# January 2025

# **Biodiversity Program**

### Statement

Ashland is fully committed to supporting biodiversity efforts through conserving key natural resources and protecting habitats in areas that Ashland impacts throughout the company's value chain. Ashland believes that as a supplier of natural and nature derived specialty ingredients, the company has an important role in supporting biodiversity and conservation. Biodiverse habitats provide many benefits and support global societal wellness through recreation, clean water, and resources with a variety of end uses. To support biodiversity, Ashland commits to take action to support the maintenance of biodiverse habitats, for current and future generations.

Ashland has identified the following areas as key aspects of the company biodiversity support strategy:

### Compliance

Ashland complies with all local, national and international regulations governing biodiversity, habitat preservation, and resource management. Ashland's code of conduct lays out these expectations of compliance as well as non-retaliation speak up policies to address any concerns raised by its employees and stakeholders. Ashland has procurement policies and processes for evaluating raw material suppliers and a strict supplier code of conduct which requires adherence to all applicable laws and regulations.

# **Engagement in Restoration at Legacy Sites**

Ashland has partnered with the Wildlife Habitat Council to support and restore biodiversity at its legacy sites. At select locations where the company has historically manufactured and is no longer operational, the company is working with a non-profit organization to restore a healthy and biodiverse habitat, as part of its broader remediation efforts.

# Sustainable Sourcing

Ashland works to source raw materials from environmentally responsible suppliers. The company utilizes Ecovadis to understand the maturity of supplier sustainability programs and commitments to corporate social responsibility. Ashland has active targets to increase Ecovadis disclosures and is working to onboard all its suppliers onto these platforms.

Ashland has several key raw materials of natural origin, containing timber, palm oil, and guar. For these key commodity materials, Ashland is actively engaged in voluntary

sustainable sourcing programs to source these products from sustainably managed areas. Ashland has goals and targets around obtaining, maintaining, and expanding the scope of voluntary certifications such as Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), and Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) for these key commodities. Ashland continues to look for opportunities to identify and attain sustainable sourcing certifications that provide additional assurances related to resource management and conservation.

### **Environmental Impact and Pollution Prevention**

Ashland's operating footprint must be managed properly to prevent negative impacts to the environment and biodiversity. Ashland is committed to a goal of achieving zero spills and releases to eliminate off site impacts from operations. Ashland is a Responsible Care company certified to Responsible Care 14001 with robust management systems to minimize spills and releases and drive to zero.

To support these efforts, Ashland takes the following steps:

- Regularly solicit and receive feedback through site good catch reporting programs
- Walk the line policies and standards to prevent hazardous material spills and releases
- Incident investigation and reporting (both internal and external) and a formal incident investigation program to identify management system failures
- Regular internal and external audits to review and identify site programs and standards to minimize risk and ensure compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements

Ashland sets annual targets around reduced environmental performance in an effort to achieve zero spills and releases that could adversely impact the environment.

### Innovation

Ashland works closely with its customers to understand its downstream impacts and customer and consumer needs on biodiversity. Key metrics related to biodiversity that Ashland reviews are:

- Biodegradability (using OECD methods) to understand and communicate if Ashland products break down naturally in the environment
- Ecotoxicity to assess and communicate the impacts Ashland products have on the environment
- Naturality (via ISO16128) to reflect natural and synthetic material composition
- Product Life Cycle Assessments to quantify a larger spectrum of environmental impacts the product may have which impact biodiversity

In addition, Ashland works to provide products that improve the efficiencies of customer operations. Doing so supports reduced resource use and indirectly helps to reduce the loss of biodiversity globally. Within key market segments such as the agricultural sector where the company makes seed coatings, Ashland works to evaluate and communicate impacts of its own products on crop yields and performance.

### Definitions

"Biodiversity" (short for biological diversity), means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

# **Responsible Party**

Ashland Vice President of EHS, Quality, and Regulatory Affairs and Ashland Vice President of Sourcing are jointly responsible for implementation of, and amendments to, this program.

# Scope

Ashland is fully committed to this Biodiversity Program. Responsibility for the successful implementation of this program belongs with every Ashland employee at each level and function in the organization.

Issued on January 15, 2025

Approved by:

M

Guillermo Novo Chief Executive Officer

Dave Druckenbroad

Dave Druckenbroad Vice President, EHS & Sustainability