



REMA 1000

DEFORESTATION POLICY

Deforestation policy

The world's remaining nature areas are under increasing pressure, where tropical areas in particular are being cleared and converted into agriculture and food production.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) more than 420 million hectares of forest (an area larger than the European Union) have been lost between 1990 and 2020*. The deforestation has massive consequences for the world's biodiversity and climate, and not least for the local populations and communities that live of the forest and its resources.

Combating deforestation and forest degradation are therefore among the most important environmental agendas in combating the global climate and biodiversity crisis, and it is an integral part of our work to ensure responsible production and promoting international human rights throughout our supply chains.

Definition of deforestation and forest degradation

In this policy, we define deforestation and forest degradation according to FAO and EU definitions:

- **Deforestation:** "The conversion of forest to other land use, including conversion to plantations, independently whether human-induced or not".**
- **Forest degradation:** "Changes within a forest which negatively affect its species composition, structure, and/or function and reduce the capacity to supply products, support biodiversity, and/or deliver services".**

Risk exposed supply chains

At REMA 1000, we sell goods where raw materials from the tropical part of the world are included both directly and indirectly. Through our procurement of goods, we run the risk of supporting continued clearing and conversion of native forest and forest degradation – and thereby increasing the negative consequences this creates for climate, environment, people and local communities. The commodities which pose the greatest risk of contributing to deforestation and which are directly and indirectly part of our value chains are as follows:

- Soy
- Palm oil
- Coffee
- Cocoa
- Wood
- Cattle

Principles

Our work to combat deforestation and forest degradation is based on leading international standards and declarations – including: The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ILO Core Conventions on Fundamental Labour Rights, as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

At REMA 1000, we work to make sure that the listed commodities are included in our business in a way where:

- Deforestation or forest degradation does not take place
- All raw materials are legally grown and harvested
- Our Supplier Code of Conduct is adhered to throughout the supply chain – including compliance with all international human rights and the protection and promotion of rights that protect workers, communities, indigenous people, activists, whistleblowers, spokes persons and marginalised populations including women.
- Transparency and knowledge of the origin and production conditions of the commodities are ensured throughout the entire supply chain.

We encourage our suppliers and partners to make similar commitments to combat deforestation and forest degradation, as well as protect and promote international human rights in their own operations and supply chains, by establishing due diligence processes and systems as described in our Supplier Code of Conduct.

Our policy to combat deforestation is complemented by the following policies:

- Responsible and sustainable soy policy
- Responsible and sustainable palm oil policy
- Supplier Code of Conduct
- Human rights policy
- Biodiversity policy

*) FAO (2020): "Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020"

**) EU Commission, (2021): "COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT: Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market", SWD/2021/327 Final

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Implementation and objectives

As part of our work with implementing this policy on combating deforestation and forest degradation, REMA 1000 adheres to undertake the following efforts:

- **Mapping:** We will map and analyse supply chains that are particularly exposed to risks of deforestation, forest degradation, and human rights abuse.
- **Supplier engagement:** We work with suppliers to prevent and, if necessary, remedy violations of this policy.
- **Remedy:** We are committed to investigate, handle and remedy potential complaints we have received through our grievance mechanism. All reports are treated anonymously if requested and without fear of reprisals.
- **Sector cooperation:** We participate in industry initiatives and sector initiatives that combat deforestation and forest degradation – including our engagement with the Danish Alliance for Responsible Palm Oil, the Danish Initiative for Ethical Trade and the Danish Alliance for Responsible Soy.
- **Reporting and communication:** We annually report on our progress and commitment and communicate widely about our work to combat deforestation.

For the six identified risk commodities, we have already started the following work and initiatives:

- **Soy:** We have developed and implemented an action plan for responsible soy and have stated requirements for RTRS certifications and RTRS credits on our own brand products.
- **Palm oil:** We have developed and implemented a specific action plan for responsible and sustainable palm oil and have requirements for RSPO certifications on our own brand products and we have mapped the amount of palm oil used in the branded products in our assortment.
- **Coffee:** We are expanding the use of the Rainforest Alliance certification, that focus on combating deforestation and forest degradation.
- **Cocoa:** We are expanding the use of the Rainforest Alliance certification, that focus on combating deforestation and forest degradation.
- **Wood:** We already have FSC certification on a wide range of products, and expand our use of the certification, which focuses on combating deforestation and forest degradation.
- **Cattle:** We have drawn up a specific action plan for responsible soy covering the use of soy in animal food production.

Grievance mechanism and remedy

REMA 1000 has implemented an anonymous grievance mechanism for all stakeholders to report concerns, complaints, as well as criticism and breaches of this and other social responsibility-related policies. The grievance mechanism follows the recommendations of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Our complaints mechanism is available on our [website](#).

REMA 1000 undertakes to engage with the complaining party and to remedy through adequate procedures and compensation in cases where we have caused or contributed to deforestation, forest degradation or where we have contributed to human rights being violated.