Engineering for a better world.

Environmental Responsibility Policy

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1. Applicability

This policy applies to all companies (i.e. GEA Group's own operations including all production, sales and administrative sites), managers, employees, suppliers and other business partners of GEA Group worldwide. This includes GEA Group Aktiengesellschaft and all companies affiliated with it under company law (hereinafter "GEA"). This includes GEA Group Aktiengesellschaft, and all companies affiliated with it under company law (hereinafter "GEA") without limitation. The Vice President Quality & Health, Safety and Environment has the overall responsibility for the design and control of adherence to the policy. All Managing Directors of GEA legal entities are responsible for implementation and adherence to the policy.

GEA, as a global leader in supplying systems and components for the food, beverage, and pharmaceutical industries, is committed to its environmental and social responsibility and takes this into account in all its business activities. Therefore, GEA is committed to taking a responsible and considered approach to its impact and dependency on nature's resources and services as well as on its employees and value chain workers worldwide.

The environmental policy statement is to be understood as a constantly evolving document. It is regularly updated, also with regard to upcoming regulatory changes in the future. It presents the motivation for environmental protection, the key environmental objectives, and the identification and management of ongoing assessment and improvement of practices and processes. This directive also refers to specifying standards of conduct such as:

- Code of Conduct
- Code of Conduct for Suppliers and Subcontractors
- Quality Policy
- Occupational Health & Safety Policy
- HSE Responsibilities for GEA managers and employees
- Conflict Minerals Policy
- Human Rights Policy, which also includes a commitment to environmentally friendly business practices
- Mergers & Acquisitions Policy
- Business Continuity and Crisis Management Policy
- General terms and conditions
- Sustainable Raw Materials Policy

This policy is reviewed once per year by the owner of the policy and related Stakeholders to ensure correct implementation. As part of GEA's ISO 14001 certified management system, both internal and external requirements are integrated into this policy and monitored through internal and external audits.

The policy relates to the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). These standards are a set of mandatory reporting requirements developed by the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) of the European Union. It addresses all material negative and positive impacts, financial risks and opportunities that GEA imposes on the environment, society and its stakeholders ("inside-out"-perspective) as well as impacts, risk and opportunities that impact GEA's business performance, financial results and state of the company (resilience) ("outside-in"-perspective) that have been identified during the materiality assessment. The results of the materiality assessment are published on gea.com/sustainability/downloads.

2. Environmental responsibility

Compliance with all applicable environmental legislation is an indispensable basis for all actions of GEA and its employees. GEA's standards go beyond mere compliance with laws and other binding regulations. GEA expects its companies, managers, employees and business partners to take the following environmental principles into account in their business activities and in all situations related to these activities.

Moreover, GEA, as an international company, is committed to its environmental responsibility and takes this into account in all its business activities. GEA achieves this with the following measures, among others:

1. Continuous measurement, review and improvement of our environmental performance and impact by assessing our objectives to implement appropriate, sustainable, corrective and preventive actions, and through regular reporting on environmental performance.
2. Health, safety and environmental compliance audits
3. Health, safety and environmental audits
4. Supplier and subcontractor audits
5. Training, for our companies, managers and employees as well as for our business partners, especially suppliers and subcontractors
6. Introduction and further development of environmental and energy management systems in accordance with ISO standards
7. Regular assessment of environmental risks and chances including internal and external stakeholder analysis
8. Corporate processes and controls specific to the environment

In addition, GEA promotes and respects the highest environmental and social standards at all levels and locations in line with the well-known OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), ILO Core Labour Standards, UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the International Bill of Human Rights.

GEA's environmental responsibility policy promotes a culture of accountability, where every individual's role and responsibility contribute to the successful execution of sustainable initiatives, helping them to fulfill GEA's sustainability goals. GEA creates internal and external awareness of environmental initiatives and environmental impact, and expects its business partners, such as its suppliers and subcontractors, to commit to their environmental responsibilities.

Adherence to the Environmental Responsibility Policy is a collective responsibility. GEA promotes an open reporting culture in which employees and contractors are expected to raise environmental concerns, incidents, risks and potential violations. Where a situation could lead to significant environmental harm or regulatory non-compliance, they are expected to intervene and, where necessary, stop the affected activity until the risk has been assessed and appropriate controls have been implemented.

Violations of laws and other binding rules, as well as internal regulations, may result in criminal, occupational and civil law consequences for involved GEA employees. For GEA, such violations can lead to high fines, exclusion from calls to tender, official sanctions, claims for damages from customers or competitors, as well as significant reputational damages.

2.1. Energy efficient acting and climate change

GEA is committed to the continuous implementation of measures to improve energy efficiency across the company. By 2040, GEA intends to run its existing buildings in a climate-neutral manner. In the short term, GEA aims to reduce energy consumption at all sites. Measures to reduce energy consumption include the installation of LED lighting, the use of even more efficient insulation materials and the use of efficient machinery controlled by energy management systems.

To further lower its ecological footprint, GEA has set the goal of fully phasing out fossil fuels by 2040 and is continuously reducing or substituting gas consumption at all its sites. The company is also increasing the share of electricity from renewable sources and targets 25 percent self-generated renewable power by 2030. Investments in energy and building management systems should improve energy efficiency by 2 percent every year.

In addition, relevant GEA sites regularly undergo a professional climate risk and vulnerability analysis. In this analysis, the climate projections and the impact assessment shall be based on best practices and available guidelines, and take into account the best available science and methodologies for vulnerability and risk analysis in line with the latest reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, peer reviewed scientific publications, as well as open source or pay-as-you-go models in accordance with current EU taxonomy requirements. Simultaneously, the current recommendations of the Taskforce for climate-related financial disclosures (TCFD) shall be followed.

2.2. Greenhouse gas emissions and other air emissions

GEA has adopted a climate strategy incorporating scientifically proven targets that are in line with the latest climate research and make an effective contribution to achieving the 1.5 degree target set out in the Paris Climate Agreement. GEA has already achieved its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from own activities (Scope 1 and 2) by 60 percent and aims to achieve an 80 percent reduction by 2030. In addition, greenhouse gas emissions in Scope 3 are to be reduced by 27.5 percent by 2030. By 2040, GEA aims to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across the entire value chain. All targets refer to the base year 2019 and apply to the entire group with all consolidated entities subsidiaries.

To reach these goals, GEA has developed the Climate Transition Plan 2040, which sets out concrete actions and interim milestones for reducing emissions to net zero by 2040. Key measures include further electrification of production sites, investments in climate-friendly buildings, and an increasing share of self-generated renewable energy. This also covers the procurement of electricity from renewable energy sources, the substitution of gas as well as on-site energy generation through photovoltaic systems and combined heat and power (CHP) units.

As greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants often originate from the same sources, GEA takes a coordinated approach to reducing all relevant air emissions. The most relevant air emissions include, among others, Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Sulphur oxides (SOx) and Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which have adverse effects on climate, ecosystems, air quality, habitats and species health. These are emitted, for instance, in the combustion of fossil fuels and from solvents in paints and fuels in GEA's vehicle fleet. GEA is committed to reducing these emissions.
VOCs are already emitted by GEA in very small quantities only. The main sources of this are the fuel used for GEA's vehicle fleet and the evaporation of solvents in the painting process. By 2030, GEA will have converted 100 percent of the global executive fleet to all-electric vehicles. That will permanently reduce operational carbon and air pollutant emissions. GEA has set itself the target of reducing

significant air emissions by 1.5 percent annually, recognizing that NO_X is primarily released during the incineration of fossil fuels. SOx do not arise for GEA's business activities.

2.3. Waste management

GEA is committed to avoiding and minimizing the generation of waste. To this end, GEA pursues the strategic goal of eliminating landfill disposal by 2030. As part of a global waste strategy 99% of waste is to be recovered or recycled. In addition, the share of waste-to-energy is to be limited to a maximum of 10%, corresponding to a recycling rate of 90%.
Another goal is to reduce total waste generation intensity by 2.1 percent per year. Moreover, GEA has committed to a continuous reduction of 1.5 percent per year of hazardous waste generated. All GEA sites have to ensure that all hazardous waste is collected by a certified external disposal company and disposed of in accordance with local regulations.

GEA continuously improves its production processes in order to significantly reduce the amount of waste from its own business operations as well as the consumption of resources. To this end, GEA began implementing a recycling management system in its spare parts business as early as 2021, with its full implementation in 2026. The further development of a recycling management system for spare parts is reflected in GEA's Mission 30 and its ambition to achieve circular-readiness for all GEA solutions by 2030. Circular-readiness comprises five R-strategies for keeping products and materials in circulation, including recycling for spare parts.
In addition, a comprehensive waste management standard is being implemented, which is structured around a waste hierarchy. The initiative supports the reuse and use of secondary raw materials and reusable components, the design for high durability, recyclability, easy disassembly and adaptability of the products, and information on substances of concern and traceability of these substances throughout the life cycle of the manufactured products. The reuse as well as the conversion of waste into new and usable materials is a key priority for GEA.

2.4. Biodiversity

GEA recognizes that its activities can directly and indirectly impact biodiversity along its product and value chains. GEA, thus, commits to the permanent preservation of biodiversity and strives to minimize its impact on the environment. GEA upholds the necessary legal requirements, particularly those set by the EU, during the construction or modification of its facilities.
GEA follows the recommendations of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) and the Science-based Targets Networks (SBTN) following the LEAP approach since 2024. GEA has conducted a high-level biodiversity risk assessment to identify key areas of concern, determine suitable mitigation strategies, and define preliminary biodiversity-related targets. This assessment incorporates all GEA sites regardless of their type of use (i.e. production, office, R&D) and is conducted based on the eight main pressures and eight 'state of nature variables' identified by SBTN. In applying a combination of predominant, market standard tools including IBAT, ENCORE, and the WWF Biodiversity Risk Filter, as well as the tools provided by SBTN in its guidance released in May 2023, GEA sets the ground for a reliable, thorough and comprehensive assessment.

To take this complex context into account, GEA has integrated the topic of biodiversity into its climate strategy. GEA's specific target is to achieve "no net loss" of biodiversity by 2030. With this, GEA's operations ensure the avoidance of significant degradation and the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

GEA already identifies sites in regions short of water using the "Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas" tool.

Further, impact assessments or equivalent evaluations aimed at conserving natural habitats and wild fauna and flora (considering Natura 2000 network of protected areas, UNESCO World Heritage sites) are undertaken, especially in or near areas of sensitive biodiversity.

GEA acknowledges the importance of stakeholder engagement in biodiversity preservation. GEA's commitment towards biodiversity extends across GEA's operations and includes its suppliers and partners. GEA works collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders to ensure a coherent and coordinated approach to biodiversity conservation across its operations.

2.5. Deforestation

Deforestation poses a threat to the rich biodiversity of tropical rainforests and is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect. GEA is aware of this threat posed by deforestation and forest degradation to global climate. Although GEA, being one of the largest system providers for the food processing industry and related industries, focuses on machinery and equipment as well as process technology and components, GEA expressly confirms that it does not produce any raw materials such as soy, beef, palm oil, wood, cocoa and coffee and thus does not engage in deforestation. GEA therefore unequivocally commits to a no-deforestation engagement. In addition, GEA is committed to a proactive approach to restoring biodiversity through reforestation efforts. This commitment extends across GEA's operations and includes its suppliers and partners.

2.6. Water management

Water is essential for all life on earth and access to clean drinking water and sanitary facilities is a basic human right. With its mission "Engineering for a better world", GEA promises its customers innovative solutions. The protection of natural resources is an integral part of our commitment to sustainable development. GEA knows that water is a critical resource in the communities it operates and that the sustainable use and protection of water is essential. GEA is therefore committed to contributing to high water quality and sustainable water quantity throughout the value chain.

This includes a commitment to provide access to water, sanitary facilities and hygiene services (WASH). In order to protect water resources, GEA has therefore set itself the target of reducing water withdrawal intensity by 30 percent by 2030. In addition to this, GEA also involves its entire value chain by working with suppliers and by providing technology to improve water use efficiency and quality for customers. GEA is therefore keen to achieve these results by means of the following measures:

2.6.1. In our company

GEA implements the following measures to ensure the continuous protection of water resources within its own operations and to comply with international and local laws.

Assessing our production sites in areas with water shortage/water stress
GEA has developed a standardized process to identify sites located in areas with high water stress. As mentioned above, this is done by identifying GEA sites in regions short of water using the "Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas" tool. GEA continuously monitors water demand in these areas, ensures that risks are known to the responsible parties and, where possible, promotes water conservation and water saving measures, including required investments. The development of a water strategy and reduction of water consumption ratio by 2.5 percent annually in all water stressed sites are defined in the sustainability targets under Mission 26 and Mission 30.

Establishment of objectives to reduce global water withdrawal intensity at GEA production sites by 30 percent by 2030
GEA strives to achieve this by increasing the share of purified water. The focus is primarily on production sites, especially in areas with water shortage. These goals underline GEA's commitment to providing "clean water and sanitary facilities" in the spirit of sustainable development.

Continuous monitoring and reporting of GEA's water consumption at production sites.
In its direct business operations, GEA relies on fresh water for sanitary and hygiene purposes as well as for selected production processes. GEA records and monitors water consumption at its production sites, service workshops, hygiene sites, large office sites and all ISO 14001 certified sites. This includes municipal water, groundwater as well as treated water and waste water. Regarding disclosure and advocacy, GEA will continue to disclose water withdrawal intensity annually in its financial statement. This also includes continued participation in the CDP Water Disclosure Programme. These mechanisms ensure continuous transparency of reporting in this area.

Environmental principles to avoid unnecessary water consumption
With its environmental principles, GEA promotes the importance of water resource protection and sustainable water management as a value of GEA's corporate culture. To support this, GEA is implementing a global water strategy that is mandatory for all units, including a global water standard built around a water hierarchy and practical examples for reducing water consumption. Employees should always consider the best use of water and, whenever possible, identify how to reduce water consumption in the workplace.

In addition, all GEA sites have to ensure that waste water from its operations is disposed of in accordance with local legal requirements. The risks of environmental degradation associated with maintaining water quality and preventing water shortage are regularly and systematically identified and addressed to achieve good water status and ecological potential. Contaminated waste water is either properly treated in an in-house waste water treatment plant or of site, e.g., in an external municipal/industrial waste water treatment plant. Contaminated waste water that cannot be disposed of via the municipal network is collected by certified external disposal companies and disposed of accordingly by the same.

2.6.2. Products and services

Provision and development of technologies for waste water treatment and fresh water production
"Engineering for a better world": This statement embodies GEA's core value proposition and its approach to shaping its value creation process with caution. Since GEA's main production processes do not require significant amounts of water, its greatest impact on water resources is through its innovative products and solutions that deliver optimal results with significant water savings. GEA supports its customers in their efforts to ensure sustainable management and the protection of natural resources by offering ever more efficient products and process solutions. By 2030, GEA will offer its customers the option of "zero fresh water consumption" for the operation of GEA equipment. Until then, GEA will actively work to reduce the economic, environmental and social impacts of its products and operations. For example, GEA cooperates with governments, non-governmental organizations, institutions and industrial sectors to provide a range of key technologies for efficient water treatment. These solutions contribute to improved access to clean and fresh water and support the same around the world. GEA's products and services already have a huge impact on the environment and play a key role in providing safe, clean water to local and regional communities.

3. Supply chain

Cooperating with our suppliers to promote environmentally-friendly business practices
Environmental responsibility is of central importance, not only in relation to GEA's products and services, but along the entire supply chain. This includes a registration process for suppliers that requires them to commit to the company's own "Code of Conduct for Suppliers and Subcontractors". This set of rules sets out the commitment of suppliers and their supply chains to promote the conservation of valuable resources, avoid contamination and adopt environmentally-sound business practices including the reduction of water consumption. Suppliers are encouraged to promote the development of technologies to limit water consumption and should implement logistical strategies that minimise the overall impact on the environment. GEA encourages suppliers to be certified according to ISO 14001 or equivalent.
Environmental criteria are consistently incorporated into the supplier management process. Supplier environmental performance is assessed through third-party certified ESG evaluations and on-site audits. The outcomes of these assessments directly inform supplier qualifications, development, and ongoing engagement.

4. Environmental product responsibility

GEA is committed to assuming responsibility for the impact and influence in the production processes of GEAs customers through the use of its product portfolio offered with regard to environmental aspects. The focus is, for example, on energy-efficient products with a neutral impact on fresh water.

On the product portfolio consequently, a comprehensive circular economy approach covering resources like energy, water, and material incl. waste is introduced. Thus, all GEA solutions will be circular-ready as of 2030 whereas the R-Strategies (Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Remanufacture, and Recycle) of a circular economy will be implemented for spare parts by 2026.

In order to meet this responsibility, structured processes apply to the entire product range, as well as performance characteristics and indicators for set targets such as reduced emissions, circular economy and fresh water use. With these goals, we want to ensure that our customers can operate in a sustainable and competitive manner. Institutionalised reporting of aims thus enables development to focus on the relevant environmental performance indicators and thus reduced product footprints.

GEA continuously trains its sales and service staff to ensure that machines and plants are operated in an ecologically-sustainable manner. To this end, the focus is on the targets (1) of sufficiency for a long service life of the machine, (2) efficiency for a productive use of resources and (3) consistency by means of nature-friendly cycles for ecologically-sustainable production with GEA machinery. In order to meet this obligation, GEA applies an adaptive learning management system that provides both mandatory and certifying product training for sales and service employees, as well as general product training for all other employees. The aim of accident-free operation by trained operators will be pursued.

In addition to this, GEA feels responsible for instructing every machine operator named by the customer with regard to environmentally-friendly operation and potential ecological risks when commissioning the product. To this end, GEA ensures in the handover protocol that the conditions verified by GEA for the ecologically-responsible operation and the associated risk minimisation can be applied. Moreover, we offer needs-specific customer training, which goes beyond the usual briefing.

5. Chemicals and hazardous substances

Information on chemicals and other hazardous substances can be found in the Code of Conduct for Suppliers and Subcontractors and in the safety data sheets. As a condition for conducting business with GEA, we expect suppliers to meet these requirements and to comply with national and international environmental standards and laws. Chemicals produced by GEA itself, e.g. for cleaning in dairy farms, meet the legal requirements in terms of chemical safety but also in terms of safety in contact with food production equipment. When using chemicals and hazardous substances, GEA always complies with legal requirements and has also defined global standards (safety and environmental core rules) for the safe application. Possible use of chemicals that are hazardous according to relevant European regulations and directives (such as the EU-Taxonomy regulation) are constantly monitored and controlled.

6. Additional information & contact

If you have any questions, please contact:

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Contact GEA

7. Version History

Date	Review and Revision
26.06.2023	Changes regarding paras 2.4 Biodiversity and 2.5 Deforestation; reference to Quality Policy and Occupational Health and Safety Policy; clarification of scope in paras 1 and 2.
16.09.2024	Updates in the context of CSRD requirements and organizational changes
17.03.2025	Update of policy ownership due to organizational changes
24.09.2025	Update and review of policy chapters; updated environmental targets in line with Mission 30; Integration of relevant sections from the Biodiversity Commitment, which will soon be phased out; Added content on supplier environmental performance in the “Supply Chain” chapter; Added aspects on circular economy in the “Environmental product responsibility” chapter; Updated company address
16.10.2026	Update and review of policy regarding the recent organizational changes. Adding the Stop & Intervene principle in chapter 2 Update on waste management target in chapter 2.3