

Forestry Policy



The Navigator Company promotes the responsible management of its plantations and agro-forestry portfolio in order to produce tangible and intangible goods, whilst conserving natural and socio-cultural resources.

Through sequestration and carbon storage in its forests and in the raw-materials and products they generate, plantations and agro-forestry areas managed by The Navigator Company contribute to a circular bioeconomy and play a relevant role in the mitigation of the effects of climate change, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

As such, The Navigator Company generates value and recognition by society in general, shareholders, employees, customers and other stakeholders within the scope of its social and environmental responsibility.

Aware of the potential contribution of its assets, The Navigator Company adopts a forest management model that seeks to maintain and continuously improve the economic, ecological and social functions of forest areas, both at the stand level and at forest landscape scale, and has made a long-term commitment to:

- *Ensure compliance with the legislation applicable to its operations and other regulations and policies to which it subscribes voluntarily.*
- *Manage its portfolio in keeping with the Pan-European Criteria for Sustainable Forest Management, according to the Portuguese Standard NP 4406 (Sustainable Forest Management).*
- *Manage its forestry portfolio according to the Principles and Criteria of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®-C010852).*

As part of its forestry business, The Navigator Company makes the following commitments:

- *To make an active contribution to countering illegal logging and to control the origin of the wood it purchases.*
- *To maintain and improve the responsible management of forest areas, in balance with their natural and social surrounding, by developing and promoting actions, including those with third parties, to ensure no deforestation, degradation and/or conversion of forests.*
- *To develop and promote the concept of forest plantations which, due to the way they are managed, can make a positive contribution to preserving the integrity of ecosystems and protecting high conservation values, and ensure effective processes of stakeholder engagement, fostering economic growth and job creation.*
- *To implement a forest management model with good practices that are documented in a Forest Management System, informed by knowledge from Research and Development, and include measures to mitigate potential environmental and social impacts.*
- *To maintain conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services as a fundamental part of its forest management model, with the objective that the planning and implementation of forest activities result, at least, in the maintenance of existing biodiversity values in the area ("no net loss"), or setting initiatives, such as restoration, that lead to a gain in biodiversity ("net positive gain").*
- *To encourage initiative in the workforce, providing employees with the training they need to achieve their management goals and promote their professional development.*
- *To ensure the health and safety of its employees, including those of external service providers in forestry activities, providing them with adequate training/ information for the assessed risks.*
- *To promote the adoption of best practices by suppliers and encourage them to operate in keeping with the guiding principles of responsible forest management, by providing support, transferring know-how, monitoring and sharing experiences.*
- *To maintain and promote a pro-active attitude to other forestry sector organizations, such as landowners, forest producers and other stakeholders, including suppliers of raw material. To develop strategic partnerships and working actively to find the best ways to improve the overall performance and competitiveness of forests and to foster certification initiatives, therefore countering the driving forces of deforestation, forest degradation and/or conversion of natural ecosystems.*
- *To provide its customers with an excellent standard of service, in which its commitment to quality, innovation and process improvement ensures that it is constantly optimizing the way it manages its business.*
- *To be ready to listen and respond to issues raised by stakeholders, to make its Forestry Policy public, work towards a relationship with local communities that reflects high standards of social and environmental responsibility and observe the principles of the International Labor Organization.*
- *To maintain and provide information on its Forest Management System, defining and reviewing its objectives and promoting the continuous improvement of the system's effectiveness.*

With this policy we promote the preservation of natural values and ecosystems, contribute to soil formation and to fighting erosion, to protect forests against wildfires and regulate the water cycle, valuing a land-use that stimulates territorial cohesion and the creation of wealth.

The Navigator Company commits to review its Forestry Policy periodically, and revise it whenever deemed necessary.

The Executive Board

(Eng.º António Redondo)

(Eng.º João Lé)

July 2023

Our paper is just the beginning

thenavigatorcompany.com

