

Biodiversity Policy

New World Development Company Limited



1. Introduction

According to the <u>United Nations Environment Programme 2010</u>, biodiversity is defined as "the variety of life on earth. It includes all organisms, species, and populations; the genetic variation among these; and their complex assemblages of communities and ecosystems".

Guided by the New World Sustainability Vision 2030 (SV 2030), New World Development Company Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Group") recognise the importance to prevent the potential loss of biodiversity and degradation of the natural environment, which may, for example, disrupt the supply chain as some of the raw materials may no longer be available at the required quantity and quality, closely associated with climate change. The Group will protect the biodiverse natural environment by referencing international and local initiatives like European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030¹ and Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2020) or relevant latest guidelines².

2. <u>Scope of Application</u>

All Business Units (BUs) under the Group are encouraged to make reference to the principles of this Policy, where applicable, BU(s) would establish its/their own policy/policies.

3. <u>Commitment</u>

The Group is committed to:

- Complying with or beyond relevant statutory requirements and conducting ecological assessments at the pre-development stage where practicable;
- Avoiding developments in the <u>World Heritage areas</u> and <u>International Union for</u> <u>Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Category I-IV protected areas;</u>
- Minimising any potential adverse impact of its operations on biodiversity through, for example, adopting more sustainable use of natural resources certified by recognised standard (e.g. FSC and PEFC) and where practicable, promoting the ecosystem restoration³;
- Minimising habitat disturbance, degradation and indirect effects of operations;

https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/Con hkbsap/files/HKBSAP ENG 2.pdf

¹ European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: <u>https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/actions-being-taken-eu/eu-biodiversity-strategy-2030_en</u> ² Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan:

³ Ecosystem Restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed (<u>IUCN</u>).



- Enhancing sustainable site selection process and identification of no-go situations;
- Promoting the awareness of biodiversity among our stakeholders such as employees and the community; and
- Working with external stakeholders such as NGOs to fulfil our commitment and supporting relevant programmes/initiatives related to biodiversity.

4. Monitoring and Reporting

Environmental risk factors including biodiversity are incorporated in our Group Risk Management Policy and the "Risk Management & Internal Control Assessment Checklist" for evaluation by the Company's departments and BUs every six months. Risk findings are reported to the Company's Audit Committee and Sustainability Committee⁴ in a timely manner.

Key biodiversity-related initiatives and programmes will be disclosed in the Company's annual reports or sustainability website and reported to the Group Sustainability Steering Committee⁵.

5. <u>Review of Policy</u>

Necessary changes to the Policy due to legislative changes and the emergence of best practices will be proposed to the Group Sustainability Steering Committee for review, in any event, at least once every three years, and Sustainability Committee for endorsement.

6. <u>Enquiries</u>

Please email <u>sustainability@nwd.com.hk</u> for enquiries on this Policy.

THE END

⁴ Sustainability Committee: Chaired by Executive Vice-chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, the Sustainability Committee comprises two independent non-executive directors and one executive director and directly oversees and advises on the Company's sustainability strategy, work plans and performance targets to advance ESG leadership.

⁵ Group Sustainability Steering Committee: reporting to the Sustainability Committee and comprising senior executives from Group functions and major business units, the Steering Committee drives practical implementation of sustainability initiatives and manages their performance to support the Sustainability Committee.

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