



Our engagement

ALDI North supports the Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

In September 2015, the United Nations adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. These goals can only be achieved by intensive collaboration in the scope of a global partnership.

Businesses are encouraged as well to address the challenges in the field of sustainable development. Our activities are based on three core values: Simplicity, responsibility, reliability. As an international group of companies, our decisions have impacts throughout the value chain. In this respect, we campaign for increased sustainability and thus contribute to accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our Corporate Responsibility-Policy (hereafter referred to as CR), the Social Compliance Programme and several resource-specific purchasing policies (such as for coffee, cocoa, tea, palm oil, fish as well as animal welfare) provide the framework for the CR activities of our group of companies, complemented by specific national targets or regional projects. We will increasingly consider the SDGs in the further development of our CR commitment as well as in the scope of identifying material topics for our sustainability report.

- [17 Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Corporate Responsibility-Policy](#)
- [Social-Compliance-Programm](#)
- [Resource-specific purchasing policies](#)



**Below you find examples of our contribution
to the following goals:**

2 ZERO HUNGER 	No Poverty	13 CLIMATE ACTION 	Climate Action
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	Clean Water and Sanitation	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	Life Below Water
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	Decent Work and Economic Growth	15 LIFE ON LAND 	Life on Land
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	Responsible Consumption and Production	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	Partnerships for the Goals

- This document is also available in other languages. If there are any deviations from the German version, the document in German shall always be applicable.
- When for reasons of readability, the male form is used to designate persons and functions in this document, this shall naturally be interpreted to include equally the male and female gender. The legal form of companies is also omitted for the same reasons.
- If not otherwise specified, data refers to the year 2015.

The publisher of the report is ALDI Einkauf GmbH & Co. oHG, Essen (referred to below as: ALDI Buying). The shareholders of ALDI Buying are specifically ALDI GmbH & Co. KG limited partnerships which form a group of equal subsidiaries in Germany. The foreign ALDI companies are licensees of the ALDI brand. All these legally independent companies form the ALDI North Group.



Targets: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

We contribute to the fight to end hunger, for example by donating food that is no longer marketable but still edible. For this purpose, we co-operate with local charity organisations as well as regional food banks on national levels.

Our purchasing policies and other programmes enable us to exert an indirect influence on the upstream processes with sub-suppliers or producers. Wherever reasonable and possible, we are converting our product range to more sustainable raw materials, thus promoting sustainable agriculture.

The project PRO PLANTEURS, in which the ALDI North Group participates, e.g. aims at granting facilitated access to land for the cultivation of cocoa particularly to young farmers and women in the eastern and southeastern regions of the Côte d'Ivoire. Through the increased income generated hereby, the general living conditions and nutrition of their families can be improved.

- Donations
- Resource-specific purchasing policies
- PRO PLANTEURS

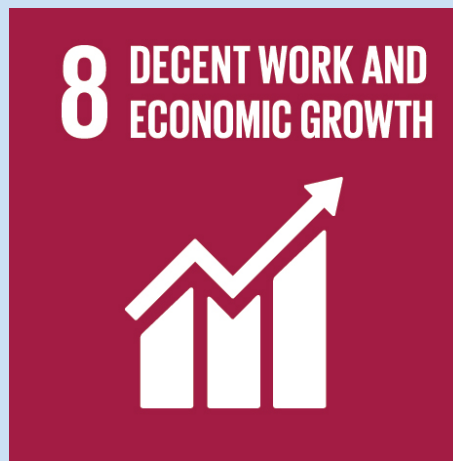


Targets: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

The availability of clean water is a great challenge in some of our countries of production. In collaboration with ALDI SOUTH, we promote the Detox Campaign by Greenpeace. We have committed ourselves to ban certain chemicals particularly in the wet-processing stages of textile and footwear production by the year 2020.

Thus, we campaign for preventing pollution affecting people and the environment, particularly the ground water, through chemicals-containing production processes in the textile and footwear industry.

[→ ALDI Detox-Commitment](#)



Targets: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Treating the employees in the group of companies and the workers within our supply chains in a responsible manner is rooted in our Corporate Mission Statement and our CR-Policy.

We expect our suppliers to ensure fair working conditions on the part of their business partners as well. All of our suppliers are contractually obliged to comply with the Code of Conduct of the international Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI). As a participant of the BSCI and in association with other market members, we campaign for work safety throughout the supply chain. With our own programmes, we are promoting the steady improvement of occupational health and safety in the manufacturing companies and production facilities, e. g. in the scope of the ALDI Factory Advancement (AFA) Project for production facilities of the apparel industry in Bangladesh that was launched together with ALDI SOUTH in 2013.

Signing the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh was another important and essential step to improve the safety of workers in the Bangladesh textile industry. In order to assess the social practices of our fruit and vegetable growers, we have introduced the evaluation tool GRASP. This tool considers the aspects of work safety, health protection and social issues of workers in agricultural businesses. As a global market member, we also established an office in Hong Kong to oversee, in co-operation with our suppliers, compliance with our high standards as well as the implementation of qualification measures in the relevant production facilities for non-food items in the Asian region.



The ALDI North companies are fair employers. We appreciate the work of our staff through transparent and respectful co-operation and reward their performance on all levels of the organisation. We offer secure working conditions and long-term career development perspectives. This also includes training: Throughout the ALDI North Group, the number of trainees was around 2,300 in 2015.

People from more than 112 nations work in the European countries where the ALDI North Group is represented. All the employees in all countries have the same opportunities irrespective of gender, age, religion or belief, sexual identity, origin or physical disability. Of course, women and men performing the same kind of work receive the same compensation. Above-average employee loyalty has been a traditional feature at the ALDI North Group on a sector comparison.

- [Corporate Mission Statement](#)
- [CR-Policy](#)
- [Business Social Compliance Initiative \(BSCI\)](#)
- [ALDI Factory Advancement \(AFA\) Project](#)
- [Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh](#)
- [GRASP](#)
- [Employees](#)



Targets: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

As a food retailer, we can help shape responsible consumption and production patterns. We aim at enabling our customers to engage in conscious consumption and at promoting a responsible approach to food. For this purpose we use our customer magazine ALDI aktuell as well as transparent labelling of sustainable products, such as the EU organic logo and the Fairtrade label. With our own traceability platform and the ALDI Transparency Code (ATC) provide our customers with detailed information about the origin of a constantly growing range of products, thus enabling well-founded purchasing decisions. Moreover, we offer a comprehensive insight into our CR commitment and activities by means of our first sustainability report. To raise the awareness of our customers even more for the issue of sustainable consumption, we have made a commitment in our CR Programme to develop pilot projects on this subject.

A responsible approach to food also includes reviewing our own processes. In order to avoid excess quantities, we plan our stocks with all due diligence. Despite such measures, however, we are not always able to sell out our items completely and therefore we donate many food items that are no longer marketable, but still edible, as well as non-food items to regional charity organisations and food banks.

The high proportion of own-brands enables us to lever standards and to implement sustainability directly with the product. We commit ourselves to this purpose by resource-specific purchasing policies, among others. Thus, we can influence our supply chain and define clear requirements by setting up a sustainable product range. As part of our Detox-Commitment regarding chemicals-containing production processes in the textile and footwear industry, we strive for societal and systemic change and encourage sustainable consumption.



In this respect, we focus on the promotion of sustainable products and manufacturing of such as well as on responsible consumption – from banning undesired substances to improved product durability and the use of sustainable materials to recycling.

Furthermore, we support the improvement of the production conditions in the apparel industry in Bangladesh through the ALDI Factory Advancement (AFA) Project that was launched together with ALDI SOUTH.

- Sustainable Product Alternatives
- ALDI Transparency Code
- Sustainability report
- CR Programme
- Donations
- Resource-specific purchasing policies
- ALDI Detox-Commitment
- ALDI Factory Advancement Project



Targets: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Our aim is to reduce the consequences of our business operations on the climate and on the environment. We have established this aspiration in our CR Policy. We have therefore defined specific targets in our CR Programme which are gradually implemented, such as the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, we are continuously striving to improve our energy efficiency. Our locations dispose of the greatest savings potential in the fields of lighting and cooling technologies. For this reason, we install efficient lighting systems and optimized cooling facilities. Moreover, we are expanding the proportion of renewable energies in our power supply. Since 2012, we have been installing photo-voltaic systems on more and more shops and warehouses in a number of countries. Excess energy that we do not use ourselves is fed into the electricity grid. In the long term and throughout the group of companies, we aim to refrain from fossil, non-renewable fuels in our new stores as far as possible.

Our mission is for customers to have fresh produce and full shelves every day. We ensure that this is the case with efficient logistics for transporting our goods. We use optimum transport routes and pool our flow of goods where it increases efficiency. This enables us to reduce the fuel consumed for our transport vehicles and cut greenhouse gas emissions at the same time. In the future, a new inventory control system will help us to analyze the goods movements even better. Furthermore, we are currently developing a concept for the group-wide introduction of an energy monitoring and management system.



We will reduce waste by increasingly using multiple-use systems in our logistics. A large proportion of packaging materials will be recycled to a considerable extent and made available to re-use. The resources thus conserved will contribute to a further reduction of our CO₂ emissions.

Climate protection and resource efficiency must be firmly anchored in our routine approach every day so that we can achieve our targets. The employees of the ALDI North Group are the key factor for success. The companies in the ALDI North Group therefore raise employees' awareness for conscientious and ethical behaviour in their everyday working environment, e.g. regarding lighting.

- CR Policy
- CR Programme
- Climate and environmental protection



Targets: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Many natural fish stocks are endangered by overfishing, illegal fishing methods and environmental pollution. Having set up our Fish Purchasing Policy for ALDI North (Germany), we promote measures counteracting the increasing threats to fish stocks in the world's oceans, conserving the ecosystems in the seas and inland waters, increasing animal welfare and improving the working conditions within the fishing industry.

In close co-operation with our suppliers and external business partners, we have defined our requirements for the sustainable procurement of raw materials for our seafood and fish products. At the end of 2015, the proportion of certified resources in conformity with the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC), GLOBALG.A.P. or EU organic logo amounted to nearly 33 percent throughout the entire ALDI North Group.

- [Fish and Seafood](#)
- [Fish Purchasing Policy](#)
- [Certified resources](#)



Targets: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

We campaign for the conservation of biodiversity as well as sustainable forestry. In order to promote sustainable forestry, we increasingly use certified wood-based products. In 2017, we will publish a paper on the subject of wood, board and paper defining clear requirements and targets that is binding throughout the group of companies. With regards to product packaging, we also request that our suppliers should use sustainable materials as far as possible for the packaging of our goods.

Palm oil production often involves tropical deforestation; local species are losing their habitats. Our International Palm Oil Purchasing Policy therefore stipulates criteria for the use of sustainably cultivated palm oil in our own-brand products. For our own-brand products containing palm oil, we aim at a conversion to 100 percent physically RSPO-certified palm oil by the end of 2018.

Our Animal Welfare Purchasing Policies also contribute to the conservation of biodiversity. These define a continuous extension of our animal welfare activities, if reasonable and possible.

- [Sustainable forestry](#)
- [International Palm Oil Purchasing Policy](#)
- [Animal Welfare Purchasing Policies](#)



**Targets: Strengthen the means of implementation
and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.**

Strong partnerships are required to accomplish the sustainable development goals. As a food retailer, the ALDI North Group has an influence on global supply chains through its range of products. Together with our suppliers, we are striving for fair and secure working conditions as well as environmentally sound methods of production and farming. To address cross-industry challenges, we participate in numerous industry- and multi-stakeholder-initiatives: We promote dialogue with societal players on various levels – nationally and internationally, as a simple member or taking a proactive role.

For instance, we participate in the Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) and in the BSCI. In co-operation with partners, we support sustainable cocoa farming and a transparent supply chain in the German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao). Direct dialogue with NGOs, consumer associations, the media as well as experts from academic professions, research and politics provides us with valuable insights for the further development of our CR commitment.

- Industry- and multi-stakeholder-initiatives
- Standards for sustainable purchasing
- Direct dialogue

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