



Climate policy

Version	Owner (dept. or function)	Target audience	Approved by	Approval date	Review frequency	Reviewed topics
1	Group sustainability	Supply chain, own operations	ExCom	April 2024	At least every 3 years	/
2	Group sustainability	Supply chain, own operations	ExCom	October 2026	At least every 3 years	Renamed to Climate policy; added climate change adaptation; linked to material IROs

I. Introduction

VPK is committed to leading the way in decarbonization efforts, aligning with **the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)** and setting ambitious **net-zero targets** for 2050. We recognize the urgent need to mitigate climate change and reduce our carbon footprint. This climate policy outlines our commitment to **transitioning to renewable energy sources and achieving significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions**.

At the same time, VPK recognises that climate change is already affecting its operations and value chain. This policy therefore also sets out how we **adapt to the actual and expected consequences of climate change**, such as water scarcity, extreme weather events and forest fires, in order to safeguard the resilience of our sites and supply chain.

This policy addresses the **climate-related risks and opportunities** identified as material in our double materiality assessment, both transition-related (e.g. stricter regulation and carbon pricing) and physical (e.g. water scarcity, extreme weather events and forest fires) risks, as well as opportunities linked to energy efficiency and a low carbon footprint.

II. Scope

This policy applies to **all aspects of VPK's divisions and operations**, including manufacturing, transportation, and office facilities. We aim to implement climate mitigation and adaptation measures across our **entire value chain**, working collaboratively with suppliers, customers, and stakeholders.



III. Commitments and objectives

Climate change mitigation

- **Near-Term Science-Based Emission Reduction Targets:** We align our emission reduction targets with SBTi criteria and recommendations.
- **Net-Zero Targets:** Our long-term objective is to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions throughout our value chain by 2050, **in line with the goal to limit global warming to 1.5°C**
- **Renewable Energy Transition:** We gradually transition to renewable energy sources across all VPK sites. These include biomass, photovoltaic installations, biogas, etc.
- **Energy Efficiency:** We integrate energy-efficient practices throughout our facilities, aiming to **lower energy usage and enhance overall efficiency**. This involves optimising current infrastructure and machinery parks, incorporating methods like cogeneration where applicable.

To achieve this goal, a clear CO₂ reduction plan was defined for all three scopes with investments in renewable energy and decarbonisation projects.

In May 2024, our targets were validated and approved by SBTi.

Climate change adaptation

- **Physical Climate Risk Assessment:** We periodically assess the exposure of our production sites and key paper suppliers to climate-related hazards, such as drought, flooding, and forest fires, and integrate the results into investment decisions and site planning.
- **Resilience to Water Scarcity:** We reduce our dependency on water resources through the water withdrawal and efficiency targets defined in our Water and waste policy, with a particular focus on paper production processes, which account for the majority of the Group's water withdrawal.
- **Resilience to Extreme Weather Events (e.g. flooding):** We take appropriate measures at our sites such as increasing (vegetation) buffers, elevating critical infrastructure, reinforcing building foundations, and installing flood barriers to protect key assets. Through periodic external risk reviews and site-level business continuity planning, we support operational resilience and help inform actions aimed at maintaining operational continuity.
- **Resilient Forests:** Increase in frequency and intensity of forest fires could threaten raw material availability (virgin fibres for paper production). Through our Deforestation and forest degradation free policy, we source exclusively from certified, responsibly managed forests and promote sustainable forestry practices, supporting healthy and climate-resilient forest ecosystems. In addition, we work with diverse suppliers and are increasing our in-house paper production capacity to secure continuity of supply.



IV. Targets

We aim at the following goals:

Climate change mitigation

- Renewable Energy: By 2030, VPK will achieve a minimum of **50% renewable energy** as a percentage of total energy consumption across all operations.
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction:
 - VPK is committed to **reducing absolute greenhouse gas emissions** from our operations (scope 1+2) by **42% by 2030**, in comparison to the 2020 baseline.
 - VPK aims to **decrease our indirect (scope 3¹) emissions by 52% by 2030**, in comparison to the 2020 baseline.
 - For all GHG emissions, VPK aims to **achieve net-zero by 2050**.

Climate change adaptation

- VPK will complete a **physical climate risk assessment** for all production sites by 2027 and update it at least every 5 years.
- Targets related to **reducing water withdrawal** are defined in our Water and waste policy.
- Targets related to **resilient forests** are defined in our Deforestation and forest degradation free policy

V. Responsibility and governance

Responsibility for implementing and monitoring the climate policy lies with the Management Committee, while oversight at the board level ensures its effective execution.

KPI stewards: Group energy manager and group procurement manager (mitigation), and Group environmental manager and Group sustainability manager (adaptation), reporting to the Sustainability Steering Committee and the Executive Committee.

We will actively communicate this policy throughout our organization and supply chain. Furthermore, VPK engages with stakeholders, including employees, suppliers, and communities, to foster collaboration and support for our climate initiatives.

¹*Other indirect (Scope 3) GHG emissions are a consequence of an organization's activities, but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the organization."
Source: GRI 305: emissions 2016