



WOOLWORTHS HOLDINGS LIMITED
2019 Position Statements, Guidelines, and Policies

POSITION STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES, AND POLICIES

We have various publicly available position statements that guide us in our Good Business Journey:



1. SUSTAINABLE FARMING


GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs)

Our preference is to avoid the use of GMOs in Woolworths-branded foods. We are continuously investigating sustainable and commercially viable alternatives, and remain committed to reducing the number of products that contain ingredients from GM crop sources. As at 30 June 2019, 100% of Woolworths' private label food products and pet food are GMO-free.

 [See Woolworths' GMO position statement](#)

ANIMAL WELFARE

We believe it is our ethical obligation to ensure that our suppliers treat all the animals in our supply chain with respect and in the most humane way possible. We believe animals should have lives worth living.

 [See Woolworths' animal welfare position statement](#)

 [See David Jones' animal welfare policy and fur, faux fur, and angora position statements](#)

 [See Country Road Group's animal welfare principles](#)



2. ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Woolworths recognises that climate change is a major issue that the retail sector contributes to through our operations and our supply chains. We have concentrated efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

 [See Woolworths' climate change position statement](#)



3. ETHICAL SOURCING

SUSTAINABLE COCOA

We support responsible cocoa farming by sourcing more and more certified sustainable cocoa.

 [See Woolworths' cocoa position statement](#)

 [See David Jones' position statement on sustainable cocoa](#)

SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL

As the first South African company to become a member of the global Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), Woolworths is helping to promote and raise awareness of the need for sustainable palm oil. Palm oil is a versatile raw material used for food and non-food industries and contributes to economic development.

 [See Woolworths' palm oil position statement](#)

CLOTHING


Most of us don't fully understand the environmental impact of our clothes. From their production to the materials that make them, all the way to transportation and washing, clothes can have a significant impact on the environment.


 [See Woolworths' sustainable clothing position statement](#)


 [See Country Road Group's Environmental Code of Practice for dyeing, printing, and finishing](#)

ETHICAL TRADING

We have embarked on a journey to better manage our ethical supply chain and to take more responsibility for improving the lives of workers in our South African and global supply chains. In doing this, we partner with credible organisations and standards to increase transparency and to encourage more sustainable practices.

 [See Woolworths Holdings' ethical trade position statement](#)


 [See Country Road Group's Code of Labour Practice](#)

 [See David Jones' Supplier Code of Conduct](#)

DEFORESTATION

Woolworths recognises the environmental and social importance of safeguarding the world's last remaining ancient and endangered forests, as well as the role of reducing deforestation and forest degradation in mitigating climate change. As part of our Good Business Journey, we are dedicated to selling products that cause minimum harm to the natural environment, help maintain biodiversity, and help improve the lives of workers in the supply chain.


 [See Woolworths' deforestation position statement](#)

 [See David Jones' position statement on illegal logging](#)

4. WASTE

FOOD WASTE

According to the South African National Policy on Food and Nutrition Security, approximately 9 million tonnes of food is wasted in South Africa each year. We have committed to reducing the amount of food wasted across our supply chain as well as finding ways to promote food security.

 [See Woolworths' food waste position statement](#)

PACKAGING

We try to ensure our products remain protected in transit so that additional waste is not created. In the case of food, we also want it to remain safe and hygienic, and to extend its shelf life for as long as possible so that additional food waste is not created.

 [See Woolworths' packaging position statement](#)

5. WATER

We're doing all sorts of things to reduce water consumption, from harvesting rainwater at some of our stores to working with our suppliers to reduce water use through our Farming for the Future programme and our Water Stewardship Project in the Western Cape.

 [See Woolworths' water position statement](#)




Since 2009, Woolworths has been a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact


WE ALSO HAVE SOME MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC TOPICS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:

SUSTAINABLE FARMING: FREE RANGE

Woolworths continues to sell extensive lines of free-range chicken, duck, beef, and lamb, which means the animals are allowed to roam freely, eat a natural diet, and are not given routine antibiotics or growth promoters.


 [See more information on Woolworths' free range chicken and duck](#)

 [See more information on Woolworths' free range beef](#)

 [See more information on Woolworths' free range lamb](#)

SUSTAINABLE FARMING: rBST

BST is a naturally occurring hormone produced by dairy cows to regulate their milk production. rBST is a synthetic version of BST, often given to cows to increase their milk production. Since 2002, Woolworths has not administered rBST to any of our Ayrshire dairy cows.

 [See more information on rBST-free milk](#)

SUSTAINABLE FARMING: KINDER TO SOWS

Woolworths has reduced the period sows are confined from the full 16-week pregnancy down to just seven days to allow for easier handling of the sow during artificial insemination and until pregnancy is confirmed.

 [See more information on Kinder to Sows pork](#)

WE HAVE A VARIETY OF INTERNAL POLICIES, CODES, AND GUIDELINES COVERING VARIOUS TOPICS, INCLUDING:

- Good food
- Free range
- Antibiotic use
- Sustainable seafood
- Detox
- Sandblasting
- Packaging
- Product safety and recall
- Human resources

**To find out more about
what we're doing, visit**

**We appreciate any feedback on our Good Business Journey Report.
Please contact GoodBusinessJourney@woolworths.co.za**
