

## Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited



## **Biodiversity Policy**

Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (hereafter referred as 'ABFRL'), company of Aditya Birla Group (ABG), recognizes that conserving biodiversity is in the long-term interest of its businesses, natural resources and society at large. Towards this, the organisation shall strive to identify and implement appropriate actions within our operating locations, supply-chains and work with stakeholders. This will be achieved through implementation of ABG's biodiversity management framework that is aligned with the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹ (CBD, 1992).

In order to achieve the above in all business relevant for our operations, we shall endeavor, through the Sustainable Business framework. to:

- 1. Maintain legal compliance to biodiversity-related laws and regulations;
- 2. Assess risks to biodiversity and associated ecosystem services from existing and planned activities;
- 3. Strive for No Net Loss<sup>2</sup> of biodiversity at our operated/ owned sites having biodiversity risks;
- 4. Endeavor towards implementing No Net Deforestation<sup>3</sup> at our sites of operation;
- 5. Implement the mitigation hierarchy by avoiding, minimizing, restoring and if necessary offsetting residual impacts on biodiversity;
- Work towards avoiding activities in critical habitats and ecologically sensitive areas including World Heritage sites and IUCN Category I-IV protected areas in our operations and partnerships;
- Avoid the introduction of any new potentially invasive, non-native species and seek to eradicate these within our operational sites;
- 8. Develop and implement Biodiversity Management Plans with clear targets and action plans, to support the conservation of species, habitats and ecosystems in our areas of operation;
- Identify, engage and collaborate with key biodiversity stakeholders to integrate their knowledge, perceptions and guidance to ensure inclusive biodiversity management;
- 10. Contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity knowledge in collaboration with experts;
- 11. Provide appropriate resources to adequately manage biodiversity at our sites; and
- 12. Monitor, review and assess biodiversity performance against measurable biodiversity targets to drive continuous improvement, and openly communicate the results.

ABFRL may review this document and make revisions when needed. This policy is endorsed by the Board of Directors.

Ashish Dikshit

**Managing Director** 

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<sup>1</sup> https://www.cbd.int

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ABG's Biodiversity Management approach is to avoid any conversion or degradation of critical habitats and ecologically sensitive area and to strive for No-Net-Loss (NNL) of biodiversity in situations where it converts or degrades natural habitats.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> No net deforestation means promises of future reforestation to compensate current forest loss, while future implementation deadlines allow for preemptive clearing, as per the applicable local laws.