

Biodiversity and No-Deforestation Commitment

Introduction

Strides Pharma Science Limited (Strides) is committed to the principles of environmental stewardship and recognizes the intrinsic value of biodiversity as essential for sustaining healthy ecosystems. Biodiversity supports ecosystem services that are vital for human health, economic prosperity, and overall well-being. This commitment outlines our commitment to protecting biodiversity and preventing deforestation across all our operations and supply chains, reflecting our dedication to sustainability and responsible corporate citizenship.

Objectives

- **Conserve Biodiversity:** Strides aims to actively safeguard ecosystems and species that may be affected by our operations. We will implement measures to protect biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems.
- **Prevent Deforestation:** We pledge to adopt responsible sourcing practices that do not contribute to deforestation or degradation of critical habitats. This includes establishing stringent guidelines for our procurement partners and processes.
- **Promote Sustainability:** Strides seeks to cultivate a culture of sustainability that extends beyond our organization, encouraging all stakeholders, including suppliers and customers, to engage in environmentally responsible practices.
- **Ensure Regulatory Compliance:** We commit to complying with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, and international agreements related to biodiversity conservation and deforestation prevention.

Scope

This commitment applies to all facets of Strides' operations, encompassing:

- **Manufacturing Facilities:** Ensuring that our production processes are designed to minimize environmental impact, including energy consumption and waste generation.



- **Research and Development Activities:** Incorporating biodiversity considerations into product development, focusing on sustainable practices and innovation that support ecological health.

Application of the Mitigation Hierarchy

Strides will consider the following mitigation hierarchy as a guiding principle in its biodiversity decision-making process:

- **Avoidance:** We will take proactive measures to avoid impacts on biodiversity wherever possible, including careful planning and site selection to ensure that sensitive ecosystems are protected.
- **Minimization:** When impacts cannot be avoided, we will implement strategies to minimize negative effects on biodiversity, utilizing best practices in project design and execution to reduce harm.
- **Restoration:** Strides is committed to restoring affected ecosystems through targeted initiatives aimed at rehabilitating habitats and supporting the recovery of impacted species.
- **Offsetting:** As a last resort, where significant impacts cannot be mitigated, we will seek biodiversity offsets that achieve equivalent conservation outcomes, investing in projects that protect or restore biodiversity elsewhere.

Conducting Biodiversity Risk Assessments

Strides intends to conduct comprehensive biodiversity risk assessments as an integral part of our project planning:

- **Assessment Framework:** These assessments will evaluate potential impacts on local ecosystems, habitats, and species, identifying risks associated with our operations and proposing appropriate mitigation measures.
- **Integration into Decision-Making:** The findings from biodiversity risk assessments will inform our operational decisions and sustainability strategies, ensuring that ecological considerations are central to our planning processes.

Engagement with Stakeholders

We recognize that effective biodiversity conservation requires the involvement of various stakeholders:

- **Stakeholder Identification:** We will identify and engage key stakeholders, including local communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, and industry partners, to discuss biodiversity issues and foster collaboration.
- **Collaborative Approach:** Strides will build partnerships with stakeholders to enhance conservation efforts, share knowledge, and leverage resources for impactful biodiversity initiatives.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** We will establish clear channels for stakeholders to provide input and feedback on our biodiversity initiatives, ensuring that our practices are transparent and accountable.


Comprehensive Conservation Framework

Our approach to biodiversity conservation will include:

- **Impact Assessments:** Conducting thorough biodiversity impact assessments before initiating any new projects to identify potential ecological risks and develop effective mitigation strategies.
- **Conservation Partnerships:** Collaborating with local and global conservation organizations to support initiatives aimed at protecting endangered species and critical habitats, ensuring that our efforts contribute to broader conservation goals.
- **Ecosystem Restoration:** We are committed to investing in restoration projects designed to rehabilitate degraded ecosystems, enhance biodiversity, and support the recovery of native species and habitats.
- **Reforestation Initiatives:** Strides will actively engage in reforestation efforts to restore forest ecosystems that have been degraded or deforested. These initiatives will enhance biodiversity, improve carbon sequestration, and support local communities dependent on forest resources.
- **Community Engagement:** Working closely with local communities to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into our conservation strategies, fostering sustainable livelihoods while preserving biodiversity.

Endorsement

This commitment is endorsed by the leadership of Strides, who recognize the importance of biodiversity and sustainability to our business. By adhering to this commitment, we are dedicated to integrating these principles into our corporate culture and decision-making processes.

 (K. B. KOMANDUR) - 15/10/2024

Badree Komandur
Designation: MD and Group CEO

