



**UNITED PETFOOD**

# **Environmental policy**

Version 2

Approved by the board of directors: 30 08 2024





## Environmental policy

**A policy to reflect our dedication to environmental stewardship and corporate responsibility.**

### **1. Scope of application**

This Environmental policy (the “Policy”) applies to United Petfood Group BV and each and every subsidiary company of United Petfood Group BV (hereinafter ‘United Petfood’ or ‘We’).

More specifically, this Policy applies to all United Petfood employees (full-time, part-time and temporary), contractors, suppliers, customers, (sub)contractors, consultants, vendors, guests. It encompasses all aspects of environmental sustainability, including resource conservation, pollution prevention and responsible consumption.

### **2. Introduction**

United Petfood is a 100% private label producer of high-quality dry & wet pet food, biscuits and snacks, with headquarters in Belgium and factories in Europe, United Kingdom, Turkey and United States of America. We focus on building sustainable relationships with our stakeholders, partners and/or suppliers based on trust, integrity and transparency.

We are an international company with respect for local values. We embrace different nationalities, cultures and backgrounds within our team.

United Petfood is committed to support, enhance and lengthen the special relationships and bond between pet parents and their pets, through good nutrition and care. Our most important responsibility is to provide safe, nutritious and palatable foods made to the highest standards of quality and food safety. As many of us are pet parents, this is a responsibility that we will not wave from.

We strive to build sustainability into everything that we do, we advocate for solutions that accelerate a transition to a green, healthy, and fair planet. We constantly look for ways to be even more responsible in our daily activities and we encourage our member organisations, suppliers and other stakeholders to do the same.



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The purpose of this Environmental policy is to articulate United Petfood's commitment to responsible business that minimizes our environmental impact, promotes conservation, and contributes to a greener and more sustainable future.

### **3. Implementation within United Petfood**

Throughout the entire supply chain, we highly value the health of living beings as well as that of the planet. We are committed to driving innovation and investing in projects that align with this vision.

At United Petfood, we prioritize the health of our environment by working with wholesome, locally sourced ingredients, offering sustainable packaging solutions, implementing waste utilization strategies, and embracing renewable energy resources.

By having sustainable partnerships with our partners, employees, and customers, we strive to create a positive impact.

Sustainability means more to us than the use of eco-friendly materials and alternative energy sources. It's a state of mind, whereby we value ethical practices in all of its aspects. We care about the wellbeing of our employees and provide them with a safe, positive and encouraging workspace.

#### **3.1. Reducing greenhouse emissions**

Climate change, driven by greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, is a critical global challenge. At United Petfood, we are committed to taking responsibility by measuring, managing and reducing our GHG emissions. We invest in energy efficiency initiatives, utilize renewable energy, and continually optimize our logistics and distribution processes.

#### **3.2. Renewable energy and energy efficiency**

The production of our pet food is not possible without energy consumption. We therefore recognize the important role of energy management in reducing our impact.

We are fully investing in the latest technology and high-tech equipment to minimize our energy consumption across the different pet kitchens. From optimizing production lines and upgrading equipment to implementing advanced monitoring systems, we are focused on reducing energy waste and maximizing operational efficiency. The general rule within United Petfood is to always choose the most energy-efficient solution when



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purchasing / replacing appliances, rolling material, machinery, etc., of course without compromising on quality. These efforts not only lower our carbon footprint but also contribute to cost savings, enabling us to reinvest in further sustainability initiatives.

Aside from externally purchasing an increasing amount of renewable energy, several of our pet kitchens are now equipped with solar panels and windmills generating renewable energy. Looking ahead, we are committed to increasing the use of renewable energy across all locations.

### **3.3. Packaging**

Packaging is a crucial element for our products, serving multiple essential functions. Its primary roles are to ensure quality, food safety, freshness, and shelf life while also protecting our products during transport. Additionally, packaging provides consumers with vital product information, such as ingredients.

While packaging is indispensable, we are committed to making our packaging as sustainable as possible. We continuously seek out more eco-friendly alternatives and encourage our customers to choose sustainable options as well. By focusing on sustainable packaging solutions, we aim to reduce our environmental impact while maintaining the high standards of quality and safety that our products are known for.

The pet food industry still faces several challenges when it comes to sustainable packaging. Issues such as the need for effective barrier properties, ensuring product safety, and finding materials that balance environmental impact with functionality remain significant hurdles. At United Petfood, we are dedicated to addressing these challenges by closely monitoring innovations in the field. By doing so, we ensure that we provide our customers with the most effective and environmentally friendly packaging solutions available.

### **3.4. Water management**

Water plays a vital role in our production process, and we actively implement water conservation measures across all our facilities. We prioritize reducing water consumption by continuously seeking innovative solutions and optimizing processes to ensure the most efficient use of water. We also ensure that our wastewater is treated in compliance with local regulations and reused whenever possible.



### **3.5. Pollution prevention**

Preventing pollution is a critical focus for our operations as we strive to minimize our environmental impact. Across our facilities, we implement advanced technologies and innovative solutions to address noise, air, and odour pollution, ensuring that we contribute to a cleaner and healthier environment for our communities.

### **3.6. Transportation**

At United Petfood, our extensive network of pet kitchens across Europe and the US allows us to optimize our logistics for greater sustainability. By leveraging this unique infrastructure, we strategically manage our transport operations to minimize our environmental impact.

By distributing our production facilities across multiple locations, we produce closer to our customers, reducing the need for long-distance transportation. This approach not only cuts down on fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions but also enhances our ability to deliver fresh, high-quality products efficiently.

### **3.7. Waste reduction**

We actively promote recycling and waste reduction in our operations.

## **4. Governance - Roles - Responsibilities**

The General Manager is responsible for implementing and monitoring this Policy at the relevant subsidiary under its supervision. This includes ensuring that all operations/activities align with the Policy's objectives and that employees comply with its guidelines. Severe violations of the Policy should be reported to Group Management, and if necessary, to the Board of Directors.

## **5. General**

This Policy takes effect on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 and replaces all Environmental policies at group level.

Where a local Environmental policy is implemented at the relevant subsidiary, or local standards, law and regulations differ from this Policy, the most stringent rules shall apply.

United Petfood reserves the right to amend this Policy at any time.