

### **Position Statement on Biodiversity and Responsible Sourcing**

At the heart of its purpose the Shoprite Group aspires to be Africa's most affordable, accessible, innovative, and responsible retailer, by being relentless in its efforts to keep its business efficient and sustain its price leadership. The loss of biodiversity is one of the biggest challenges of our time and the Group's business has an indirect yet high dependency on various ecosystem services, such as pollination, soil, climate and / or water-related services, including the work of various micro-organisms.

The Group recognises the importance of natural ecological systems in its direct and indirect operations; therefore, we are intent on reducing our impact on these vital systems through various environmental and social programmes, including responsible sourcing. As a responsible retailer, the Shoprite Group is aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), where many goals highlight the importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, particularly SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 15 (life on land).

#### **To this end, the Shoprite Group commits to:**

1. Increasing the mainstreaming of biodiversity into the Group's direct operations to articulate key biodiversity dependencies and identify opportunities to reduce biodiversity harm.
2. Adopting the biodiversity loss mitigation hierarchy of avoidance, minimisation, restoration or rehabilitation and offsetting; and applying a "no net loss" approach for its own operations; or a "net gain" approach where appropriate.
3. Collaborating and partnering with suppliers and other organisations to promote responsible sourcing of key agricultural, aquatic and forestry products.
4. Sharing information related to responsible sourcing with employees and customers to build knowledge and create awareness.
5. Setting plans and targets to continuously reduce biodiversity loss and improve responsible sourcing.
6. Reporting and being transparent on our efforts and performance.