

# Respecting Biodiversity

## Background

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life on earth, including diversity of ecosystems, genes and species, and ecological practices that support them.<sup>1</sup> There is a growing concern about the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in many areas of the world, including the associated impacts on human health and economic development.

As a health care company, Johnson & Johnson recognizes the importance of conserving biodiversity and believes it is an important shared responsibility. Nature has long played an integral role in the discovery of new medicines and ingredients. We believe that biological resources provide opportunities to develop life-saving health care solutions, as well as naturally-derived consumer product ingredients. We support the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which promotes conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components. We also agree with the intent of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, which seeks to promote the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of biological resources.

## Managing Our Direct Impact on Biodiversity

Johnson & Johnson recognizes that our operations may impact local ecosystems and biodiversity. To minimize our impact, we undertake a biodiversity review at all our key facilities. Properties with significant natural areas that have sensitive flora or fauna are expected to maintain a biodiversity conservation action plan.

## Managing Our Indirect Impact on Biodiversity

To minimize potential impacts on biodiversity upstream in our supply chain, we developed standards that guide our sourcing practices. All suppliers are expected to comply with our [Responsibility Standards for Suppliers](#), which include general requirements addressing sustainability and environmental responsibility.

[The Responsibility Standard—Forest-Based Materials & Products](#) guides our purchasing of forest-based products. Our Statement on [Responsible Palm Oil Sourcing Criteria](#) outlines sourcing requirements for suppliers of palm oil and its derivatives, including adherence to the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil Principles and Criteria and proper management of High Conservation Value (HCV) areas in accordance with the guidance established by the HCV Resource Network.

With respect to natural products and naturally derived ingredients, we have established internal checkpoints for documenting and tracking the use of such resources to ensure that they are used in accordance with local laws and regulations. We source these resources from third-party suppliers, who are required to provide documentation of their compliance with biodiversity laws.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: [United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity](#)