

ENVIRONMENTAL & BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION POLICY



OVERVIEW

At Veshin, our first core value is to be sustainably progressive in every aspect of what we do. We strive to reduce environmental impacts from production, services and logistics throughout the entire operational cycle.

We adhere to avoiding any type of pollution, air, land, and water emissions, and waste reduction principles that include minimizing generation of waste, through efficient resource use. We always implement the 3R concept: reduce, reuse, recycle. By working with our clients from the design stage, we support them to apply the concepts of eco-design and design for circularity.

We ensure that no hazardous materials are released into the environment and that we have no adverse impacts on surrounding communities.

Regulatory obligations related to the environment are fulfilled unconditionally and in a timely manner, and international standards are taken into consideration.

Our goal is to achieve ISO14001 certification by the end of 2023.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND TRAINING

Top Management is in charge of carrying out regular environmental impact assessments, and managing environmental protection, energy saving, waste management, and waste, and water consumption. According to Veshin's OHS policy, management is also responsible for ensuring safe noise, dust, temperature conditions, and hygiene.

All employees receive basic training on environmental safety and resource reduction based on their role.

ENVIRONMENT

At Veshin, we recognise that resources are finite and that the impact of products and activities spread globally.

We monitor environmental performance monthly through an internal Environmental Management System, which covers electricity, water consumption, raw materials and waste, and how these vary with production volumes.

This allows us to learn which products are less resource-intensive, and to check if there are any abnormalities with our machinery or ways of operating.

We share with our staff a mentality of sustainability, and brainstorm together innovative ways to reduce consumption, both in the factory and offices. Examples include the usage of air conditioning only when necessary to allow comfortable working conditions, or the reuse of water from cleaning vegetables to clean floors.

All our waste is separated into categories and recycled with a local waste contractor as per local law.

Around 43% of the electricity we use in the factory comes from renewable sources. As the company grows, we want to make sure that this number increases, and that the impact per product is reduced, allowing for efficiency from scale.

BIODIVERSITY

Broadly defined as the variety of all life forms on earth, biodiversity matters. Biodiversity loss and climate change are interdependent and mutually reinforcing - one accelerates the other, and vice versa. According to experts, most of the negative impact comes from three stages in the value chain: raw-material production, material preparation and processing, and end of life.

By eliminating the use of animal based products, we already widely support the fight against biodiversity loss, given that a large amount of deforestation happens for land use change for animal breeding and growing of feed. Material suppliers are asked whether they are ZDHC compliant, and all certifications and sustainable features are recorded in our material library, and are at the basis of our selection.

In addition to our internal activities, Veshin supports MareBlu in the development, design and construction of artificial reefs, which in time will promote and enhance marine life.

CHEMICALS

At Veshin, we reduce or eliminate the use of restricted, toxic and hazardous constituents/substances in products and services. Most of our operations are mechanical as they consist of stitching and assembly.

The only chemical product that we use is glue, which we only use in water-based form, to avoid solvents.

All our adhesive and chemical suppliers are formally requested to follow ZDHC MRSL, and regional laws regarding obtaining permissions to purchase, store and use them. All our Chemical Suppliers must identify which chemicals are used and enter the factory, and we always ask whether they have a less harmful substitute. Veshin is a ZDHC signatory since 2022, and is committed to supporting this programme.

We ensure weatherproofing, safe handling of chemicals and have a procedure in place for how to mix, transport and use the chemicals. Suppliers must keep strict control over these procedures in order to avoid fires, spillages and other accidents from happening, according to our OHS policy.