

Global Policy - Biodiversity Conservation & Restoration

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1. Context

According to the United Nation's Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the world is facing unprecedented biodiversity decline, with more than a million species at risk of extinction. This trend poses severe, pervasive, and potentially irreversible impacts on ecosystems, food security, economic stability, and human health. Moreover, business is also highly dependent upon nature and biodiversity which are responsible for around half of the world's GDP¹ with the cost of inaction likely higher than the cost of action².

We, at Solvay, are committed to preserving and enhancing biodiversity, contributing to international frameworks such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030.

This policy highlights the continuous effort to better understand our dependencies on ecosystems and our direct impacts and pressures on biodiversity (GHG and other emissions, consumption of natural resources including water, waste generation, etc.) to ensure a sustainable transition.

This Policy describes our commitment, governance and action plans to manage the material impacts, risks and opportunities (IROs) related to biodiversity. It is part of a set of policies defined by Solvay under the umbrella Sustainability Policy where the overarching ambition, strategy, governance and communication are described.

2. Scope

Based on the Double Materiality Assessment (DMA) and evaluations carried out using internationally recognized databases (Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool³ and Biodiversity and Water Risk Filters⁴), the scope of this policy covers:

- 7 active Soda Ash sites (including satellite sites⁵) with material negative impacts on land degradation and land use change
- 9 sites located in sensitive areas where potential pressures on biodiversity are investigated. Some of these pressures are also addressed by specific policies on Climate and Environment Management.

As a result, the Biodiversity Conservation & Restoration policy and its associated commitment and action plan comprises 16 sites operated by Solvay.

¹ World Economic Forum 2020: "Nature Risk Rising: Why the Crisis Engulfing Nature Matters for Business and the Economy" (https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_New_Nature_Economy_Report_2020.pdf)

² Convention on Biological Diversity 2008: "The Cost of Policy Inaction" (<https://www.cbd.int/financial/doc/cop1-2008.pdf>)

³ <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/>

⁴ <https://riskfilter.org/>

⁵ Satellite sites are accounted for in their respective attached sites to avoid double counting: Devnya (including Chernovo and Provadia), Rheinberg (including Epe) as well as Rosignano (including Ponteginori and San Vincenzo)

The list of considered sites is in the [Appendix I](#).

3. Commitments

30% of permeable land areas under conservation and restoration with measurable positive impacts by 2030

In order to align with our sustainability ambition and contribute to the vision of regenerating nature, we commit to have 30% of permeable land⁶ located near biodiversity sensitive areas⁷ under conservation and restoration⁸ with measurable positive impacts by 2030.

This commitment allows us to actively contribute to the Global Biodiversity Framework's 2030 ambition, and meet stakeholder and regulatory expectations.

After a first inventory established in 2024 and consolidated on a parcels cartography in 2025, revealed that a great surface at Solvay's sites is categorized as permeable. This commitment was taken with the understanding that under favorable environmental conditions (climate, soil and ecosystem health and management practices), permeable surfaces can be subject to conservation and restoration with measurable biodiversity benefits within 3 to 5 years.

To achieve measurable positive results in conserving and restoring permeable surfaces by 2030, we are implementing a comprehensive action plan structured around three key pillars: permeable surface management, star factory initiatives, and stakeholder engagement.

Permeable Surface Management: We are conducting a full inventory of permeable areas across all priority sites, identifying [opportunities](#), blockers to progress, and implementing targeted conservation and restoration actions (including conservation-compatible use) with a site-specific approach through tailored site roadmaps.

Star Factory Initiatives: We leverage the Star Factory Initiative already in place to enforce in each priority site the implementation of biodiversity roadmaps, with ecological status assessments.

Stakeholder engagement: We consolidate strategic partnerships with key actors and communities in biodiversity conservation and restoration to support implementation of our roadmap. We aim to infuse knowledge and foster leadership and responsibility at every level through employee upskilling.

⁶ Permeable surfaces are materials that allow liquids or gases to pass through, facilitating water absorption and groundwater recharge. These surfaces reduce surface runoff, helping mitigate flooding and improve water quality by filtering pollutants. They also lessen the urban heat island effect by retaining less heat. Examples include permeable pavers, gravel, porous asphalt, and reinforced grass. Integrating permeable ground cover supports sustainable urban development, enhances stormwater management, and promotes ecosystem health and climate resilience. Source: Permeable Vs. Impermeable Surfaces | Cooperative Extension | University of Delaware

⁷ Based on Biodiversity Assessment Tool and Biodiversity and Water Risk Filters

⁸ Depending on the state of the concerned surfaces, the defined actions can range from establishing zones with 0 human activities to conservation-compatible use of the surface with projects conceived to maintain or favor biodiversity and ecosystem quality. A first list of identified actions include establishment of:

- 0 human activity areas
- biodiversity activity areas (nesting areas, bee hives)
- environment-friendly management areas (differentiated lawn mowing, deadwood/branches left on the soil of the forest)
- responsible farming (nature based solution, no intensive farming)
- grazing (sheep for instance)
- solar panel (with protection of biodiversity)
- wetlands, lakes, ponds creation/preservation

The primary Key Performance Indicators are:

- The absolute surface area under conservation and restoration actions, expressed in hectare (ha).
- The percentage of permeable areas under conservation and restoration actions, expressed in %.

Tackling environmental challenges along the value chain

In addition to actions to reduce our impacts on biodiversity at our own sites, we at Solvay are engaging in an environmental Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) from resource extraction to the factory gate, converting emissions and resource use into key environmental impacts.

Solvay's holistic environmental approach includes:

- Updating LCA methods through collaboration with experts to ensure comprehensive, site-specific impact indicators
- Monitoring progress and maintaining transparency
- Support projects that can be beneficial for biodiversity

4. Responsibilities

Implementation

All managers, leaders, and their own workforce are responsible to apply this policy by deploying procedures, rules and processes accordingly.

Solvay site managers are responsible to apply this policy and implement the Group procedures in their sites.

The HSE team, through its Sustainable Environment department, enforces the policy implementation through its day-to-day operational oversight, supported by Correspondents at each GBU and operational site.

Policy validation and review

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) holds ultimate responsibility for the validation and adoption of this policy. As outlined in the company's Sustainability Policy, the ELT ensures that the policy aligns with the organization's strategic goals, global biodiversity standards and stakeholder expectations.

This policy will be reviewed regularly by the HSE team to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. If updates are necessary, these will be validated through the governance described in our [Sustainability Policy](#).

Log change

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Version 02	January, 21 st 2026	New priority sites list	Lanny Duvall
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Document owner: Christophe Roger, HEPS Director

Document reviewer: Lanny Duvall, Chief Operation Officer

Document approver: ELT

Appendix

I. Scope of the policy

Site	Country	GBU
Bernburg	Germany	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Devnya*	Bulgaria	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Dombasle	France	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Rheinberg*	Germany	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Rosignano*	Italy	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Torrelavega	Spain	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Walcourt	Belgium	Soda Ash & Derivatives
Gunsan	South Korea	Silica
Livorno	Italy	Silica
Qingdao	China	Silica
Linne-Herten	Netherlands	Peroxides
Map Ta Phut	Thailand	Peroxides
Paulinia	Brazil	Coatis
Santo Andre	Brazil	Coatis
Bad Wimpfen	Germany	Special Chem
La Rochelle	France	Special Chem

*Satellite sites are accounted for in their respective attached sites to avoid double counting: Devnya (including Chernovo and Provadia), Rheinberg (including Epe) as well as Rosignano (including Ponteginori and San Vincenzo).

**Leased sites for various applications are currently out of scope.